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ANNUAL MESSAGE

OF THE

President of the United States

TO THE

TWO HOUSES OF CONGRESS.

At the Commencement of the Second Session of the 46th Congress.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 30.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

The members of the Forty-sixth Congress have assembled in their first regular session under circumstances calling for mutual congratulation and grateful acknowledgement to the Giver of all good for the large and unusual share of national prosperity which we now enjoy.

The most interesting events which have occurred in our public affairs since my last annual message to Congress, are connected with the financial operations of the Government, directly affecting the business interests of the country. I congratulate Congress on the successful execution of the Resumption Act. At the time fixed and in the manner contemplated by law, United States notes began to be redeemed in coin. Since the first of January last they have been promptly redeemed on presentation, and in all business transactions, public and private, in all parts of the country, they are received and paid out as the equivalent of coin. The demand upon the treasury for gold and silver in exchange for United States notes has been comparatively small, and the voluntary deposit of coin and bullion in exchange for notes has been very large. The excess of the precious metals deposited or exchanged for United States notes redeemed is about $40,000,000

REVIVAL OF BUSINESS.

The resumption of specie payments has been followed by a very great revival of business. With a currency equivalent in value to the money of the commercial world, we are enabled to enter into active competition with other nations in trade and production. The increasing foreign demand for our manufactures and agricultural products has caused a large balance of trade in our favor, which has been paid in gold, from the 1st of July last, to November 15, to the amount of about $50,000,000. Since the resumption of specie payments there has also been a marked and gratifying improvement in the credit of the Government, the bonds of the Government bearing only four per cent. interest, have been sold at or about par, sufficient in amount to pay off all of the National debt, which was redeemable under present laws. The amount of interest saved annually by the process of refunding the debt, since March 1, 1869, is $10,250,000. The interest to be paid yearly will sum, and the number of our citizens now holding the public securities is much greater than ever before. The amount for the National debt which matures within less than two years is $392,121,700, of which $50,000,000 bear interest at the rate of five per cent., and the balance is in bonds bearing six per cent. interest. It is believed that this part of the public debt can be refunded by the issue of four per cent. bonds, and by the reduction of interest which will thus be effected, about eleven millions of dollars can be annually saved to the Treasury. To accomplish this important result, legislation of interest to be paid by the United States, further legislation is required, which, it is hoped, will be provided by Congress during the present session.

COINAGE OF GOLD.

The coinage of gold by the mints of the United States, during the last fiscal year was $40,000,912. The coinage of silver dollars, since the passage of the act for that purpose, up to November 1, was $45,-000,000, of which $27,000,000 have been received from the Treasury and are now in circulation, and $22,000,000 are still in the possession of the government.

The pendency of the proposition for unity of action between the United States and the principal commercial nations of Europe, to effect a permanent system of the equality of gold and silver in the recognized money of the world, leads me to recommend that Congress refrain from new legislation on the general subject. The great revival of trade, internal and foreign, will supply, during the coming year, its own instructions which may well be awaited before attempting future experimental measures with the coinage. I would, however, especially urge upon Congress the importance of authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to suspend the coinage of the silver dollar upon the present legal ratio. The market value of the silver dollar being uniformly and largely less than the market value of the gold dollar, it is obviously impracticable to maintain them at par with each other. The cheaper coin is forced into circulation it will, if coined without limit, soon become the sole standard of value, and thus defeat the desired object, which is a currency of both gold and silver, which shall be of equivalent value, dollar for dollar, with the universally recognized market of the world.

The retirement from circulation of United States notes, with the capacity of legal tender in private contracts, is a step to be taken in our progress towards a safe and stable currency, which should be accepted as the policy and duty of the Government, and the interest and security of the people. It is my firm conviction that the issue of legal tender paper money based wholly upon the authority and credit of the Government, except in extreme emergency, is without warrant in the Constitution, and a violation of sound financial principles. The last issue of United States notes for circulation in the late civil war with the capacity of legal tender between private individuals, was not authorized except as a means of rescuing the country from imminent peril. The circulation of these notes as paper money, for any protracted period of time after the accomplishment of this purpose, was not contemplated by the framers of the measure by which they were issued. They anticipated the redemption and withdrawal of these notes at the earliest practicable period consistent with the attainment of the object for which they were provided.

The policy of the United States, steadily adhered to from the adoption of the Constitution, has forbidden the creation of a national debt, and when, from necessity in time of war, debts have been created, they have been paid off on the return of peace as rapidly as possible. With this view, and for this purpose, it is recommended that the existing laws for the accumulation of a sinking fund sufficient to extinguish the public debt within a limited period be maintained. If any change of the objects or rates of taxation is deemed necessary by Congress, it is suggested that experience has shown that a duty can be placed on tea and coffee, which will not enhance the price of those articles to the consumer, and which will add several millions of dollars annually to the treasury.

POLYGAMY IN UTAH.

The continued deliberate violation by a large number of the prominent and influential citizens of the Territory of Utah of the laws of the United States for the prevention and punishment of polygamy demands the attention of every department of the Government. This Territory has a population sufficient to entitle it to admission as a State, and the general interests of the Nation, as well as the welfare of the citizens of the Territory, require its advance from the Territorial form of government to the responsibilities and privileges of State. This important change will not, however, be approved by the country while the citizens of Utah in very considerable number uphold a practice which is condemned as a crime by the laws of all civilized communities throughout the world.

The law for the suppression of this offense was enacted by great unanimity by Congress more than 17 years ago, but has remained until recently a dead letter in the territory of Utah because of the peculiar difficulties attending its enforcement. The opinion widely prevailed among the citizens of Utah that the law was in contravention of the constitutional guarantee of religious freedom. This objection is now removed. The Supreme Court of the United States has decided the law to be within the legislative power of Congress, and binding as a rule of action for all who reside within the Territories. There is no longer any reason for delay or hesitation in the enforcement. It should be firmly and effectively executed. If not sufficiently stringent in its provisions it should be amended, and, in all of the purposes in view, I recommend that more comprehensive and more searching methods for preventing as well as punishing this crime be provided. If necessary to secure obedience to the law, the enjoyment and exercise of the rights and privileges of citizenship in the territories of the United States may be held or withdrawn from those who violate or oppose the enforcement of the law on this subject.

SECURITY OF ELECTIVE FRANCHISE.

The elections of the past year, though occupied only with State offices, have not failed to elicit in the political discussions which attended them all over the country, new and decisive evidence of the deep interest which the great body of citizens take in the progress of the country towards a more general and complete establishment, at whatever cost, of uniaxersal security and freedom in the exercise of the elective franchise. While many topics of political concern demand great attention from our people, both in the sphere of National and State authority, I find no reason to qualify the opinion I expressed in my last annual message, that no temporary or administrative interests of government, however urgent or weighty, will ever disgrace the zeal of our people in defence of the primary rights of citizenship, and that the power of public opinion will override all political prejudices, and all sectional and state attachments, in demanding that all over our wide territory the name and character of the citizens of the United States shall mean one and the same thing, and carry with them unchallenged security and respect. I earnestly appeal to the intelligence and patriotism of all good citizens of every part of the country, how-ever they may be divided in opinion on other political subjects, to unite in compelling obedience to existing laws aimed at the protection of the right of suffrage. I respectfully urge upon Congress to supply any defects in those laws which experience has shown and which it is within its power to remedy. I again invoke that co-operation of the executive and legislative authorities of the States in this great purpose. I am fully convinced that if the public mind can be set at rest on this paramount question of popular rights, no serious obstacle will thwart or delay the complete pacification of the country, or retard the general diffusion of prosperity.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

In a former message I invited the attention of Congress to the subject of the reformation of the civil service of the Government, and expressed the intention of transmitting to Congress as early as practicable a report upon this subject by the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission.

In view of the facts that, during a considerable period, the Government of Great Britain has been dealing with administrative problems and abuses, in various particulars analogous to those presented in this country, and that in recent years the measures adopted were understood to have been effective and in every respect highly satisfactory, I thought it desirable to have fuller information upon the subject, and accordingly requested the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission to make a thorough investigation for this purpose. The result has been an elaborate and comprehensive report.

The report sets forth the history of the partisan-spoils system in Great Britain, and of the rise and fall of the parliamentary patronage, and of official interference with the freedom of elections. It shows that after long trials of various kinds of examinations, those which are competitive and open on equal terms to all, and which are carried on under the superintendence of a single commission, have, with great advantage, been established as conditions of admission to almost every official place in the subordinate administration of the country and British India. The completion of the report, owing to the extent of the labor involved in its preparation, and the omission of Congress to make any provision either for the compensation or the expenses of the commission, has been postponed until the present time. It is herewith transmitted to Congress.

While the reform measures of another government are of no authority for us, they are entitled to influence to the extent to which their intrinsic wisdom, and their adaptation to our institutions and social life may commend them to our consideration.

The views I have heretofore expressed concerning the defects and abuses in our civil administration remain unchanged, except in so far as an enlarged experience has deepened my sense of the duty both of officers and of the people themselves to co-operate for their removal. The grave evils and perils of a partisan-spoil system of appointment to office, and of office tenure, are now generally recognized. In the resolutions of the great parties, in the reports of departments, in the debates and proceedings of Congress, in the messages of Executives, the gravity of these evils has been pointed out, and the need of their reform has been admitted.

To command the necessary support, every measure of reform must be based on the conviction right and justice, and must be compatible with the healthy existence of great parties, which are inevitable and essential in a free State.

When the people have approved a policy at a National election, confidence on the part of the officers they have chosen, and of the advertising which, in accordance with our political institutions, should be consulted, in the policy which it is their duty to carry into effect, is indispensable. It is eminently proper that they should explain it before the people, as well as illustrate its spirit in the performance of their official duties.

Very different considerations apply to the greater number of those who fill the subordinate places in the civil service. Their responsibility is to their superiors in official position. It is their duty to obey the legal instructions of those upon whom that authority is devolved, and their best available service consists in the fidelity of their functions, irrespective of partisan politics. Their duties are the same, whatever party is in power and whatever policy prevails. As a consequence, it follows that their tenure of office should not depend on the prevalence of any policy or the supremacy of any party, but should be determined by their capacity to serve the people most usefully, quite irrespective of partisan interests. The same consideration that should govern the tenure, should also prevail in the appointment, discipline and removal of those subordinates. The authority of appointment and removal is not a perquisite, which may be used to aid a friend or reward a partisan, but is a trust to be exercised in the public interest, under all the sanctions which attend the obligation to apply the public funds only for public purposes.

Every citizen has an equal right to the honor and profit of entering the public service of his country. The only just ground for discrimination is the measure of character and capacity he has to make that service most useful to the people. Except in cases where, upon just and recognized principles, as upon the theory of pensions, offices and promotions are bestowed as rewards for past services, their bestowal upon any theory which disregards personal merit, is an act of injustice to the citizen, as well as a fraud upon the public to which the appointing power is held.

In the light of these principles, it becomes of great importance to provide just and adequate means, especially for every department, and a large administrative office, where personal discrimination on the part of its head is not practicable, for ascertaining those qualifications to which appointments and promotions should have reference. To fail to provide such means is not only to deny the opportunity of ascertaining the facts upon which the most righteous claim to office depends, but, of necessity, to discourage all worthy aspirants, by handing over appointments and removals to mere influence and favoritism. If it is the right of the meanest claimant to gain the appointment and the interest of the people to bestow it upon him, it would seem clear that a wise and just method of ascertaining personal fitness for office must be an important and permanent function of every just and wise government. It has long since become impossible, in the great offices, for those having the duty of nomination and appointment, to personally examine into the individual qualifications of more than a small proportion of those seeking office, and with the enlargement of the civil service, that proportion must continue to become less.

In the earlier years of the Government the subordinate offices were so few in number that it was quite easy for those making appointments and promotions to personally ascertain the merits of candidates. Party managers and methods had not then become powerful agencies of coercion, hostile to the free and just exercise of the appointing power.

DUTY OF THE PRESIDENT.

A large and responsible part of the duty of restoring the civil service to the desired purity and efficiency rests upon the President, and it is my purpose to do what is within my power to advance such prudent and gradual measures of reform as will most surely and rapidly bring about that radical change of system essential to make our administrative methods satisfactory to a free and intelligent people. By a proper exercise of authority, it is in the power of the Executive to do much to promote such a reform. But it cannot be too clearly understood that nothing adequate can be accomplished without co-operation on the part of Congress and considerate and intelligent support among the people. Reforms which challenge the generally accepted theories of all parties, and demand changes in the methods of departments, are not the work of a day. Their permanent foundations must be laid in sound principles, and in an experience which demonstrates their wisdom and exposes the errors of their adversaries. Every worthy officer desires to make his official action a gain and an honor to his country, but the people themselves, far more than their officers in public station, are interested in a pure, economical and vigorous administration.

By laws enacted in 1853 and 1855, and now in substance incorporated in the revised statutes, the practice of arbitrary appointments to the several subordinate grades in the great departments was condemned, and examinations as to capacity, to be conducted by Department boards of examiners, were provided for and made conditions of admission to the public service. These statutes are a decision by Congress that examinations of some sort, as to attainments and capacity, are essential to the well-being of the public service. The important questions since the enactment of these laws have been as to the character of these examinations, and whether official favor and partisan influence, or common right and merit, were to control the access to these examinations. In practice, these examinations have not always been open to the worthy persons generally, who might wish to be examined. Official favoritism and partisan influence, as a rule, appears to have designated those who alone were permitted to go before the examining boards, subjecting even the examiners to a pressure from the friends of the candidates very difficult to resist. As a consequence the standard of admission fell below that which the public interest demanded. It was also almost inevitable that a system which provided for various separate boards of examiners with no common supervision or uniform method of procedure, should result in confusion, inconsistency and inadequate tests of capacity highly detrimental to the public interests. A further and more radical change was obviously required.

ACT OF 1871.

In the annual message of December, 1870, my predecessor declared that "there is no duty which so embarrasses the Executive and heads of departments as that of appointments; nor is there any such annoyance and hinderance to faithful officers and clerks, and so subversive of good discipline, as the visits of Senators and Representatives as that of finding places for constituents. The present system does not secure the best men, and often not even fit men for the public places. The elevation and purification of the civil service of the Government will be hailed with approval by the whole people of the United States. Congress, recognizing the necessity, passed the act, approved March 3, 1871, "to regulate the civil service of the United States and promote the efficiency thereof," giving the necessary authority to the Executive to inaugurate a civil service reform.

Acting under this statute which was interpreted as intended to secure a system of just and effectual examinations under uniform supervision, a number of eminently competent persons were selected for the purpose, who entered with zeal upon the discharge of their duties, prepared with an intelligent appreciation of the requirements of the service, the regulations contemplated, and took charge of the examinations, and who, in their capacity as a Board, have been known as the "Civil Service Commission." Congress for two years appropriated the money needed for the compensation and for the expense of carrying on the work of the Commission.

It appears from the report of the commission, submitted to the President in April, 1874, that examinations had been held in various sections of the country, and that an appropriation of about $25,000 would be required to meet the annual expenses including salaries, involved in discharging the duties of the commission. The report was transmitted to Congress by special message of April 3, 1874, with the following favorable comment upon the labors of the commission. "If sustained by Congress, I have no doubt the rules can, after the experience gained, be so improved and enforced as to still more materially benefit the public service and relieve the executive, members of Congress, and the heads of departments, from the embarrassing and prejudicial to good administration. The rules, as they have hitherto been enforced, have resulted beneficially, as is shown by the opinions of the members of the Cabinet and their subordinates in the Departments, and in that opinion I concur." And in the annual message of December of the same year similar views are expressed, and an appropriation for continuing the work of the Commission again advised.

The appropriation was not made, and, as a consequence, the active work of the Commission was suspended, leaving the commission itself still in existence, without the means, therefore, of causing qualifications to be tested in any systematic manner, or of securing for the public service the advantage of competition upon any extensive plan. I recommended in my annual message of December, 1877, the making of an appropriation for the resumption of the work of the Commission.

In the meantime, however, competitive examinations under many embarrassments have been conducted within limited spheres in the executive departments in Washington, and a number of the custom houses and postoffices of the principal cities of the country, with a view to further test their effects, and, in every instance, they have been found to be so salutary as they are understood to have been under the administration of my predecessor. I think the economy, purity, and efficiency of the public service would be greatly promoted by their systematic introduction, wherever practicable, throughout the entire civil service of the Government, together with ample provisions for their general supervision in order to secure consistency and uniform justice.

Reports from the Secretary of the Interior, from the Postmaster General, from the Postmaster of the City of New York, where such examinations have been some time on trial, and also from the Collector of the Port, the Naval Officer, and the Surveyor in that City, and from the Postmasters and Collectors in several of the other large cities, show that the competitive system, where applied, has in various ways contributed to improve the public service. The reports show that the result has been salutary in a marked degree, and that the general application of similar rules cannot fail to be of decided benefit to the service.

The reports of the Government officers in the City of New York especially, bear decided testimony to the utility of open competitive examinations in their respective offices, showing that "these examinations, and the excellent qualifications of those admitted to the service through them, have had a marked incidental effect upon the persons previously in the service, and particularly upon those aspiring to promotion. There has been, on the part of those latter, an increased interest in the work, and a desire to extend their acquaintance with it beyond the particular desk occupied, and thus the *morale* of the entire force has been raised. * * * The examinations have been attended by many citizens who have had an opportunity to thoroughly investigate the scope and character of the tests and the method of determining the results, and those visitors have, without exception, approved the methods employed, and several of them have publicly attested their favorable opinion."

Upon such considerations, I deem it my duty to renew the recommendation contained in my annual message of December, 1877, requesting Congress to make the necessary appropriation for the resumption of the work of the Civil Service Commission. Economy will be promoted by authorizing a moderate compensation to persons in the public service who may perform extra labor upon or under the execution, as the Executive may direct.

I am convinced that if a just and adequate test of merit is enforced for admission to the public service and in making promotions, such abuses as removals without good cause, and partisan and official interference with the proper exercise of the appointing power, will in a large measure disappear.

ADMINISTRATIVE ABUSES.

There are other administrative abuses to which the attention of Congress should be asked in this connection. Mere partisan appointments and the constant peril of removal without cause, very naturally lead to an absorbing and mischievous political activity on the part of those thus appointed, which not only interferes with the due discharge of official duty, but is incompatible with the freedom of elections. Not without warrant, in the views of several of my predecessors in the Presidential office, and directly within the law of 1871, already cited, I endeavored, by regulation, made on the 22d day of June, 1877, to put some reasonable limits to such abuses. It may not be easy, and it may never perhaps be necessary, to define with precision the proper limit of political action on the part of the federal officers. But while their right to hold and freely express their opinions cannot be questioned, it is very plain that they should neither be allowed to devote to other subjects the time needed for the proper discharge of their official duties, nor to use the authority of their office to enforce their own opinions, or to coerce the political action of those who hold different opinions.

Reasons of justice and public policy, quite analogous to those which forbid the use of official power for the oppression of the private citizen, impose upon the Government the duty of protecting its officers and agents from arbitrary exactions. In whatever aspect considered, the practice of making levies, for party purposes, upon the salaries of officers, is highly demoralizing to the public service and discreditable to the country. Though an officer should be as free as and other citizen to give his own money in aid of his opinion or his party, he should also be as free as any other citizen to refuse to make such gifts. If salaries are but a fair compensation for the time and labor of the officer, it is gross injustice to levy a tax upon them. If they are made excessive in order that they may bear the tax, the excess is an indirect robbery of the public funds.

I recommend, therefore, such a revision and extension of the present statutes as shall secure to those in every grade of official life or public employment the protection with which a great and enlightened Nation should guard those who are faithful in its service.

RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Our relations with foreign countries have continued peaceful.

With Great Britain there are still unsettled questions, growing out of the local laws of the maritime provinces and the action of provincial authorities, deemed to be in derogation of rights secured by treaty to American fishermen.

The United States Minister in London has been instructed to present a demand for $105,305.02, in view of the damages received by American citizens at Fortune Bay on the 6th day of January, 1878. The subject has been taken into consideration by the British Government, and an early reply is anticipated.

Upon the completion of the necessary preliminary examinations, the subject of our participation in the provincial fisheries, as regulated by treaty, will at once be brought to the attention of the British Government with a view to an early and permanent settlement of the whole question, which was only temporarily adjusted by the treaty of Washington.

Efforts have been made to obtain the removal of restrictions found injurious to the exportation of cattle to the United Kingdom.

Some correspondence has also occurred with regard to the rescue and saving of life and property upon the lakes, which has resulted in important modifications of the previous regulations of the Dominion Government on the subject, in the interest of humanity and commerce.

In accordance with the joint resolution of the last session of Congress, Commissioners were appointed to represent the United States at the recent international exhibitions in Australia, one of which is now in progress at Sydney, and the other to be held next year at Melbourne. A desire has been expressed by our merchants and manufacturers interested in the important and growing trade with Australia, that an increased provision should be made by Congress for the representation of our industries at the Melbourne Exhibition of next year, and the subject is respectfully submitted to your favorable consideration.

TRANS-ATLANTIC CABLE.

The assent of the Government has been given to the landing on the coast of Massachusetts, of a new and independent transatlantic cable between France, by way of the French island of St. Pierre, and this country, subject to any future legislation of Congress on the subject. The conditions imposed before allowing this connection with our shores to be established, are such as to secure its competition with any existing or future lines of marine cable, and preclude amalgamation therewith, to provide for entire equality of rights to our Government and people with those of France in the use of the cable, and prevent any exclusive possession of the privilege as accorded by France to the disadvantage of any future cable communication between France and the United States which may be projected and accomplished by our citizens. An important reduction of the present race of communication with Europe, felt to be too burdensome to the interests of our commerce, must necessarily flow from this competing line.

The attention of Congress was drawn to the propriety of some general regulation by congress of the whole subject of transmarine cables by my predecessor in his message of December 7, 1875, and I respectfully submit to your consideration the importance of Congressional action in this matter.

The questions of grave importance with Spain, growing out of the incidents of the Cuban insurrection have been, for the most part, happily and honorably settled. It may reasonably be anticipated that the commission now sitting in Washington for the decision of private cases in this connection, will soon be able to bring its labors to a conclusion.

The long standing question of East Florida claims has lately been renewed as a subject of correspondence, and may possibly require congressional action for its final disposition.

A treaty with the Netherlands with respect to consular rights and privileges, similar to those with other powers, has been signed and ratified, and the ratifications were exchanged on the 31st of July last. Negotiations for extradition treaties with the Netherlands and with Denmark are now in progress.

Some questions with Switzerland, in regard to pauper and convict emigrants, have arisen, but it is not doubted that they will be arranged upon a just and satisfactory basis. A question has also occurred with respect to an asserted claim by Swiss municipal authorities to exercise tutelage over persons and property of Swiss citizens naturalized in this country. It is possible this may require adjustment by treaty.

With the German Empire frequent questions arise in connection with the subjects of naturalization and expatriation; but the Imperial Government has constantly manifested a desire to strictly maintain and comply with all treaty stipulations in regard to them.

In consequence of the omission of Congress to provide for a diplomatic representative at Berne, the legation of the United States has been withdrawn. There is now no channel of diplomatic communication between the two countries, and the expediency of providing for one, in some form, is submitted to Congress.

Relations with Austria, Russia, Italy, Portugal, Turkey, and Belgium continue satisfactory, and marked by no incident of especial importance.

A change of the personal head of the Government of Egypt has taken place. No change, however, has occurred in the relations between Egypt and the United States. The action of the Egyptian Government in presenting to the City of New York a needle of the ancient obelisks, which possess such historic interest, is highly appreciated as a generous mark of international regard. If prosperity should attend the enterprise of its transportation across the Atlantic, its erection in a conspicuous position in the chief commercial city of the Nation will soon be accomplished.

The treaty recently made between Japan and the United States in regard to the revision of the former commercial treaties, it is now believed will be followed by similar action on the part of other treaty powers. The attention of Congress is again invited to the subject of the indemnity for claims received some years since, from Japan and China, which, with their accumulated interest, now amount to considerable sums, if any part of these funds is justly due to American citizens, they should receive it promptly; and whatever may have been received by this Government in excess of strictly just demands, should in some form be returned to the nations to whom it equitably belongs.

The government of China has signified its willingness to consider the question of the emigration of its subjects to the United States with a dispassionate fairness, and to co-operate in such measures as may tend to prevent injurious consequences to the United States. The negotiations are still proceeding, and will be pressed with diligence.

A question having arisen between China and Japan about the Lew Chew Islands, the United States Government has taken measures to inform those powers of its readiness to extend its good offices for the maintenance of peace, if they shall mutually deem its desirable, and find it practicable to avail themselves of the proffer.

It is a gratification to be able to announce that, through the judicious and energetic action of the military commanders of the two Nations on each side of the Rio Grande under the instructions of their respective governments, raids and depredations have greatly decreased, and in the localities where formerly most destructive, have now almost wholly ceased. In view of this result, I entertain a confident expectation that the prevalence of quiet on the border will soon become so assured as to justify a modification of the present orders to our military commanders as to crossing the borders without encouraging such disturbances as would endanger the peace of the two countries.

The third instalment of the award against Mexico under the claims commission of July 4, 1868, was duly paid, and has been put in course of distribution in pursuance of the act of Congress provided for the same. This satisfactory situation between the two countries leads me to anticipate an expansion of our trade with Mexico and an increased contribution of capital and industry by our people to the development of the great resources of that country. I earnestly commend to the wisdom of Congress the provision of suitable legislation looking to this result.

Diplomatic intercourse with Colombia is again fully restored by the arrival of a Minister from that country to the United States. This is especially fortunate in view of the fact that the question of an inter-Oceanic Canal has recently assumed a new and important aspect, and is now under discussion with the Central American countries through whose territory the Canal, by the Nicaragua route, would have to pass. It is trusted that enlightened statesmanship on their part will see that the early prosecution of such work will largely inure to the benefit, not only of their own citizens and those of the United States, but of the commerce of the civilized world. It is not doubted that should the work be under taken under the protective auspices of the United States, and upon satisfactory concessions for the right of way and its security, by the Central American Governments, the capital for its completion would be readily furnished from this country and Europe, which might, failing such guarantees, prove inaccessible.

Diplomatic relations with Chili have also been strengthened by the reception of a Minister from that country.

The war between Peru, Bolivia and Chili still continues. The United States have not deemed it proper to interpose in the matter, further than to convey to all the Governments concerned the assurance that the friendly offices of the Government of the United States for the restoration of peace upon an honorable basis will be extended, in case the belligerents shall exhibit a readiness to accept them.

Cordial relations continue with Brazil and the Argentine Republic, and the trade with those countries is improving. A provision for more regular and frequent mail communication in our own ships, between the ports of this country and the Nations of South America seems to me to deserve the attention of Congress as an essential precursor of an enlargement of our commerce with them, and an extension of our carrying trade.

A recent revolution in Venezuela has been followed by the establishment of a provisional government. This government has not yet been formally recognized and it is deemed desirable to await the proposed action of the people, which is expected to give it the sanction of constitutional form.

A naval vessel has been sent to the Samoan Islands to make surveys and take possession of the privileges ceded to the United States by Samoa, in the harbor of Pago Pago. A coaling station is to be established there, which will be convenient and useful to United States vessels.

The subject of opening diplomatic relation with Roumania and Servia, now become independent sovereignties, is at present under consideration, and is the subject of diplomatic correspondence.

There is a gratifying increase of trade with nearly all European and American countries, and it is believed that with judicious action in regard to its development it can and will be still more enhanced, and that American products and manufactures will find new and expanded markets. The reports of Diplomatic and Consular officers upon this subject, under the system now adopted, have resulted in obtaining much valuable information, which has been and will continue to be laid before Congress and the people from time to time.

The third article of the treaty with Russia, of March 30, 1867, by which Alaska was ceded to the United States, provides that the inhabitants of the ceded territory, with the exception of the uncivilized native tribes, shall be admitted to the enjoyment of all the rights of citizens of the United States, and shall be maintained and protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property and religion. The uncivilized tribes are subject to such laws and regulation as the United States may from time to time adopt in regard to the aboriginal tribes of that country.

Both the obligations of this treaty and the necessities of the people, require that some organized form of government over the territory of Alaska be adopted.

There appears to be no law for the arrest of persons charged with common law offences, such as assault, robbery and murder, and no magistrate authorized to issue or execute process in such cases. Serious difficulties have already arisen from offences of this character, not only among the original inhabitants, but among citizens of the United States and other countries, who have engaged in mining, fishing, and other business operations within the Territory. A bill authorizing the appointment of justices of the peace and constables, and the arrest and detention of persons charged with criminal offences, and providing for an appeal to United States Court for the District of Oregon, in suitable cases, will, at a proper time, be submitted to Congress.

THE PUBLIC FINANCES.

The attention of Congress is called to the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the condition of the public finances.

The ordinary revenue from all sources for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1879, were $273,827,184.46; the ordinary expenditures for the same period were $266,947,-883.58, leaving a surplus revenue for the year of $6,879,300.88.

The receipts for the present fiscal year, ending June 30, 1880, actual and estimated, are as follows: Actual receipts for the first quarter, commencing July 1, 1879, $79,843,-663.61; estimated receipts for the remaining three quarters of the year, $208,156,336.39; total receipts for the current fiscal year, actual and estimated, $288,000,000.

The expenditures for the same period will be, actual and estimated, as follows: For the quarter commencing July 1, 1879, actual expenditures—$91,685,358.10; and for the remaining three quarters of the year the expenditures are estimated at $172,314,641.90—making the total expenditures $264,000,000, and leaving an estimated surplus revenue for the year ending June 30, 1880, of $24,000,000. The total receipts for the next fiscal year ending June 30, 1881, estimated according to existing laws will be $288,000,000; and the estimated ordinary expenditure for the period, will be $278,000,364,36—leaving a surplus of $9,999,635.64 for that year.

The large amount expended for arrears of pensions during the last and the present fiscal year, amounting to $21,447,249.60, has prevented the application of the full amount required by law to the sinking fund for the current year; but those arrears having been substantially paid, it is believed that the sinking fund can hereafter be maintained without any change of existing law.

THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

The Secretary of War reports that the War Department estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1881, are $40,880,458.93, the same being for a less sum of money than for any annual estimate rendered to Congress from that Department during a period of at least 12 years.

He concurs with the General of the army in recommending such legislation as will authorize the enlistment of the full number of 25,000 men for the line of the army exclusive of the 5,465 men required for detached duty, and therefore not available for service in the field.

He also recommends that Congress be asked to provide by law for the disposition of a large number of abandoned military posts and reservations, which, though very valuable in themselves, have been rendered useless for military purposes by the advance of civilization and settlement.

He unites with the Quartermaster-General in recommending that an appropriation be made for the construction of a cheap and perfectly fire-proof building for the safe storage of a vast amount of money, accounts, vouchers, claims and other valuable records now in the Quartermaster-Generals office, and exposed to great risk or total destruction by fire.

He also recommends in conformity with the views of the Judge-Advocate General, some decilratory legislation in reference to the military statute of limitation as applied to the crime of desertion.

In these several recommendations I concur.

The Secretary of War further reports that the work for the improvement of the South Pass of the Mississippi River, under contract with Mr. James B. Eads, made in pursuance of an act of Congress, has been prosecuted during the past year, with a greater measure of success in the attainment of results than during any previous year. The channel through the South Pass, which, at the beginning of operations in June, 1875, had a depth of only seven and one-half feet of water, had, on the 8th of July, 1879, a minimum depth of 26 feet, having a width of not less than 200 feet and a central depth of 30 feet. Payments have been made in accordance with the statute, as the work progressed, amounting in the aggregate to $4,250,000, and further payments will become due, as provided by the statute, in the event of success in maintaining the channel now secured.

The reports of the General of the Army and of his subordinates, present a full and detailed account of the military operations for the suppression of hostilities among the Indians of the Ute and Apache tribes, and praise is justly awarded to the officers and troops engaged, for the promptness, skill and courage displayed.

The past year has been one of almost unbroken peace and quiet on the Mexican frontier, and there is reason to believe that the efforts of this Government and Mexico to maintain order in that region will prove permanently successful.

This Department was enabled during the past year to find temporary, though crowded accommodations and a safe depository for a portion of its records, in the completed west wing of the building designed for the State, War and Navy Departments. The construction of the north wing of the building, or part of the structure intended for the use of the War Department, is being carried forward with all possible dispatch, and the work should receive from Congress such liberal appropriations as will secure its speedy completion.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy shows continued improvement in that branch of the service during the fiscal year. Extensive repairs have been made upon vessels, and two new ships have been completed and many others are.

The total expenditures of the year ended June 30, 1879, including specific appropriations not estimated for by the Department, were $13,555,710.09. The expenses chargeable to the year, after deducting the amount of these specific appropriations, were $13,-248,872.09, but the resulting saving in expenditures is $283,726.99, that amount having been drawn upon warrants, but not paid out during the year. The amount of appropriations applicable to the last fiscal year was $14,538,646.17. There was, therefore, a balance of $1,479,034.37 remaining unexpended, and to the credit of the Department, on June 30, 1879. The estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1881, are $14,864,447.95, which exceeds the appropriations for the present fiscal year $301,807.28. The reason for this increase is explained in the Secretary's report. The appropriations available for the present fiscal year are $14,542,-230.67, which will, in the opinion of the Secretary, answer all the ordinary demands of the service. The amount drawn from the treasury from July 1, to November 1, 1879, was $5,770,404.12, of which $1,005,550.33 has been refunded, leaving as the expenditure for that period $4,-674,963.79. If the expenditures of the remaining two-thirds of the year do not exceed the proportion for these four months, there will remain unexpended, at the end of the year, $477,359.30 of the current appropriations. The report of the Secretary shows the gratifying fact that among all the disbursing officers of the pay corps of the Navy, there is not one who is a defaulter to the extent of a single dollar. I unite with him in recommending the removal of the Observatory to a more healthful location. That institution reflects credit upon the Nation, and has obtained the approbation of scientific men in all parts of the world. Its removal from its present location would not only be conducive to the health of its officers and professors, but it would greatly increase its usefulness.

THE APPROPRIATION FOR JUDICIAL EXPENSES,

which has heretofore been made for the department of justice, in gross, was subdivided at the last session of Congress, and no appropriation whatever was made for the payment of fees of marshals and their deputies, either in the service of process or for the discharge of other duties, and since June 20th, these officers have continued the performance of their duties, without compensation from the Government, taking upon themselves the necessary incidental outlays, as well as rendering their own services. In only a few unavoidable instances has the proper execution of the process of the United States failed by reason of the absence of the requisite appropriation. This course of official conduct on the part of these officers, highly creditable to their fidelity, was advised by the Attorney General, who informed them, however, that they would necessarily have to rely for their compensation upon the prospect of future legislation by Congress. I therefore especially recommend that immediate appropriation be made by Congress for this purpose.

The act making the principal appropriation for the Department of Justice at previous sessions has undertaken to maintained the following clause: "And for defraying the expenses which may be incurred in the enforcement of the act approved February 28, 1870, entitled 'An act to enforce the right of citizens of the United States to vote in the several States of the United States, and for other purposes, or any acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto."

No appropriation was made for this purpose for the current year. As no general election for members of Congress occurred, the omission was a matter of little practical importance. Such election will, however, take place during the ensuing year, and the appropriation made for the year of March 3d, 1879, will be insufficient to embrace compensation for the services they may be required to perform at such elections.

THE SUPREME COURT.

The business of the Supreme Court is at present largely in arrears. It cannot be expected that more causes can be decided than are now disposed of in its annual session, or that by any assiduity the distinguished magistrates who compose the court can accomplish more than is now done. In the courts of many of the circuits, also, the business is increasing to such an extent, that the delay of justice will call the attention of Congress to an appropriate remedy. It is believed that all is done in each circuit which can fairly be expected from its judicial force. The evils arising from delay, are less heavily felt by the United States, than by private suitors, as its causes are advanced in the courts when it is seen that they involve the discussion of a public character.

The remedy suggested by the Attorney-General, is the appointment of additional circuit judges, and the creation of an intermediate Court of Errors and Appeals, which shall relieve the Supreme Court of a part of its jurisdiction, while larger force is also demanded for the performance of circuit duties.

I commend this suggestion to the consideration of Congress. It would seem to afford a complete remedy, and would involve, if ten additional circuit judges are appointed, an expenditure, at the present rate of salaries, of not more than $60,000 a year, which would certainly be small in comparison with the objects to be obtained.

POSTAL SERVICE.

The report of the Postmaster-General bears testimony to the general revival of business throughout the country. The receipts of the Postoffice Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1879, were $30,-061,982.86, being $764,465.91 more than the revenues of the preceding year. The amount realized from the sale of postage stamps, stamped envelopes and postal cards $774,465.91 more than in the preceding year, and $2,387,538.83 more than in 1877. The expenditures of the Department were $33,449,899.45, of which the sum of $376,-461.65 was paid on liabilities incurred in preceding years.

The expenditures during the year were $801,209.77 less than in the preceding year. This reduction is to be attributed mainly to the operation of the law passed June 17, 1878, changing the compensation of postmasters from a commission on the value of stamps sold to a commission on stamps cancelled.

The amount drawn from the Treasury on appropriations in addition to the revenues of the Department was $3,061,554.96, being $2,276,197.80 less than in the preceding year.

The expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1881, are estimated at $39,920,000, and the receipts from all sources at $32,210,-000, leaving a deficiency to be appropriated for, out of the Treasury, of $7,710,000.

The relations of the department with rail road companies have been harmonized notwithstanding the general reduction by Congress of their compensation, by the appropriation for special facilities, and the railway Postoffice lines have been greatly extended, especially in the Southern States. The interests of the Railway mail service and the public would be greatly promoted, and the expenditures could be more readily controlled by the classification of the Railway mail service as recommended by the Postmaster General, the appropriation for salaries, with respect to which the maximum limit is already fixed by law, to be made in gross.

The Postmaster-General recommends an amendment of the law regulating the increase of compensation for increased service and increased speed on star routes so as to en

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE CO., Pubrs.

TOLEDO, O., THURSDAY, DEC 4, 1879.

OUR CLUB LIST.

We have made arrangements with the publishers enabling us to send the BLADE and either of the following publications for the prices annexed (postage pre-paid):

WEEKLIES.	Single Copy.	With Blade.
Christian at Work	$2 05	$3 75
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Harper's Weekly	4 00	4 60
New York Ledger	3 00	3 75
Prairie Farmer	2 00	2 75
Rural New Yorker	2 50	3 25
Scientific American	3 00	0
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Brainard's Musical World	1 50	2 50
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" Sunday Magazine	3 00	3 75
Harper's Monthly	4 00	4 60
Godey's Lady's Book	2 00	3 00
Peterson's Magazine	2 00	2 75
Scribner's Magazine	4 00	4 60
Good Company	3 00	3 75

Our agents everywhere are authorized to receive subscriptions at the above rates. In making this proposition we only stipulate that we must receive at the SAME TIME one subscriber of THE BLADE for each copy of any other publication ordered from the list. They need not both be sent to the same person, and even to the same Postoffice, and in renewing their subscriptions, old as well as new subscribers may avail themselves of the offer. The magazines and papers are all sent direct from the offices of publication to subscribers, so that there will be no delay in their receipt. No subscriptions received at the above rates for less than one year.

Please remember that we CANNOT ALLOW COMBINATIONS on subscriptions for the above named papers and magazines, except for THE BLADE, as stated.

As is the invariable custom in all newspaper offices, a subscription year is reckoned as FIFTY-TWO WEEKS.

BRICK POMEROY is trying to nurse the Rag Baby in Texas into life and vigor.

ILLINOIS'S unimproved lands are bigger than Massachusetts and Connecticut put together.

SEC. SHERMAN denies emphatically that he has expressed or exhibited a preference for any of the Ohio Senatorial candidates.

GEN. JOE JOHNSTON originated the scheme to make Gen. GRANT a Captain General. JOE might have been much better employed.

PROF. SARGENT, of Harvard College is to have charge of the investigation of the forest wealth of the United States for the next census.

TOLEDO is the place for holding the Republican National Convention next year, as she is now the center of the greatest railroad system in the world.

GEN ROBINSON favors the appointment of Gov. FOSTER to the Chairmanship of the National Republican Committee made vacant by the death of Sen. CHANDLER.

THE Utah courts have decided that a polygamous wife is not entitled to any share of her so-called husband's estate. This is a blow directly at the heart of Mormonism.

DENNIS KEARNEY mentioned his determination to run Sen. THURMAN as the Workingmen's candidate next year, and then the police swooped down on him as a political grave robber.

THE Tennessee Republicans talk confidently of what they will be able to do next year with a strong candidate, standing squarely on a platform promising the honest payment to the last cent of the State debt.

IN digging around for politico-military corpses for something to serve as a Presidential figure-head next year, some Democratic politicians have exhumed the remains of Gen. DON CARLOS BUELL, whom everybody thought was dead-er than GEO. B. MCCLELLAN, even.

ALL the employes of the City of Chicago, Policemen, Firemen, Clerks, etc., who declined to vote and peddle Democratic tickets at the recent election, are being discharged by the Mayor, a carpet bagger from Virginia, who has brought his political methods with him from the Swamp South.

BEFORE we pass our opinion upon the Mormon propaganda in Georgia we should like to be clear in our minds that a man who has miscellaneous collection of sealed wives, is more dangerous to the community than one who practices shooting his political opponents through the back.

THE Chippewa Indians in Minnesota find the raising of sorgum to be a fascinating and profitable pursuit—very much better in every way than raising the hair of their enemies. By and by perhaps they will send missionaries to the South to help convert the people there to the same belief.

THE extraordinary efforts now being made by prominent New York Democrats to heal the breach in their party are interesting if not laudable. Their success is doubtful. JOHN KELLY, big with the importance of his 70,000 votes, is not in the frame of mind suitable for consenting to any terms that such an absolutist as TILDEN is likely to propose or agree to.

THE labor the people of the United States waste every year in writing the useless and senseless "ough" on such words as through, though, etc., would, if devoted to some useful purpose, be sufficient to build many miles of railroad, send a missionary to Mississippi, or the Canibal Islands, convert a Greenbacker, or confer some other marked benefit on humanity.

OUR NEW CLUBBING LIST.

We take pleasure in calling attention of subscribers and casual readers to our revised clubbing list which heads this page. The rates at which we offer other publications in combination with the BLADE for 1880 have been greatly reduced, and we now offer the *cheapest periodical reading matter* to be obtained anywhere. We ask all our friends to consult this list carefully before they make their selections, and then give us their orders. Everything contained in this list is marked down to the lowest possible price.

THE GRAND COMBINATION.

The great sale of New York Central stock, the foreshadowings of which have for a time perturbed the New York stock market, has at last been accomplished, and the whole country stands aghast at the transaction, and at the interests it has brought into combination.

The details given begin first with JAY GOULD'S well-known ambition to control a through line across the continent. He started out with the Union Pacific as a basis, and then secured the Chicago & Northwestern, which brought him as far East as Chicago. Three years ago he made a strong effort to get control of the Michigan Central, which, with a Canadian road, would have brought him to the Niagara River, where he could have joined the Erie.

A majority of the Michigan Central's stockholders were hostile to GOULD because of his bad character as a wrecker, and they preferred that the road should go into Mr. VANDERBILT'S hands, who had a pleasant reputation as a payer of dividends on stock.

This was followed by another unlucky turn. He had not covered all his points carefully enough, and a combination of leading speculators caught him very short on Chicago & Northwestern, and not only wrested the control of that road away from him but got so big a hold on the Union Pacific that he was forced to come to terms with them, and admit them as partners in his scheme. They have all worked in harmony since, and the result is the Wabash and Union Pacific combination, which makes a through line from Toledo to San Francisco, and has tributaries draining the best part of the Country—between those two points.

This was a terrible blow at VANDERBILT. He could not meet it by consolidating with Western connections, since none that he could make would be as important as those already made by his opponents. He therefore retaliated by buying a controlling interest in the Erie, upon which the Wabash-Pacific parties relied for their Eastern connection. He won the President of the road—Mr. JEWETT—over to his interest, and at the recent election put all of JAY GOULD'S friends out of the Board of Directors, and replaced them with his own men. What followed is thus told by the New York *Times*.

All that can be asserted is that it was the general opinion a month ago that the Vanderbilt and Gould clique were antagonistic. About a fortnight ago overtures were made looking to a reconciliation. Meetings of the Gould party were held in the office of Russell Sage, and immediately afterwards Cyrus W. Field visited a number of the most prominent banking houses down town and offered them an opportunity to become members of the Syndicate for the purchase of a block of New York Central, then stated to be 200,000 shares, at 10 per cent. below market price. The inducement offered to Vanderbilt was said to be the traffic of the Southwestern system of roads, the Syndicate to place all the stock on the London market. The bankers naturally viewed the scheme with favor, but insisted that Vanderbilt should contract to "lock up" the remainder of his stock for a period of one year. This Mr. Field promised should be done. When the story leaked out it was generally regarded as a preposterous invention for influencing the market, which was then at the hight of the "great boom."

The total capital stock of the New York Central stock is close to 900,000 shares, of which it was believed that the Vanderbilt family owned 540,000. The sale of 200,000 would, therefore, deprive them of their control, and place them in the power of their bitterest business enemies. It was also known that the Gould clique, which comprises all the prominent manipulators of the stock market, had "unloaded" their holdings upon the public at the high quotations caused by the speculative craze, and were anxious to break down prices so as to regain them cheaply. Field called upon Vanderbilt, and unfolded to him the requirements of the Syndicate. It is asserted this was the first Vanderbilt knew of the matter. He met the proposition with a flat refusal. Tuesday or Wednesday of last week Field, having induced the syndicate to modify its demands, visited Vanderbilt the second time, and offered to be satisfied with an agreement that he would not sell any more New York Central stocks for six months. This Vanderbilt peremptorily declined, and the negotiations were ended for the time being. Meanwhile, the Gould clique had begun to hammer at the stock market. It was at this critical moment that Jay Gould's newspaper came out with the story of the exploded negotiations, being careful so to word it as to give the impression, first, that the negotiations were still in progress, and, second, that their consummation, by diverting all traffic of the Southwestern system to the New York Central lines, would cut off the Erie from all its Western connections, and confine it practically to its own local resources. This was printed in the most conspicuous manner, and early the same morning 300,000 shares of Erie stock, contributed by the clique, were hurled upon the market in large blocks, Erie being the mainstay of the market. The effect can be imagined. It is already a matter of history that the public became panic-stricken, stocks declined enormously, the public were swindled out of millions of dollars, and the clique bought back all its previous holdings at largely depreciated prices.

There cannot be the slightest question that this much was a stock-jobbing operation, pure and simple. Thursday evening and Friday morning Vanderbilt repeated to several reporters the unequivocal assertion that the story was made out of whole cloth, and that he was not negotiating for the sale of the New York Central stock. Friday Cyrus Field expressed the wonder how such a story could be invented, and asserted positively that no negotiations of the sort described were in progress. Drexel, Morgan & Co. said the story had no foundation. Russell Sage said that there had been such negotiations some time before, but they had fallen through. So on through the list.

From every person mentioned in the *Tribune* article as interested in alleged negotiations, the denial of its "yarn" was as positive as language could make it. This affected these gentlemen, without exception, infuriated their assertion that on Friday last the negotiations were practically closed and on this basis their claims to have been truthful in the replies of that day. Mr. Field's expression was, "You can't catch me in a lie. There were no negotiations in progress then. They have been broken off, and have since been revived." One after another the members of the syndicate gave similar testimony with a unanimity which was convincing that negotiations were not opened until Tuesday evening. Then Mr. Tidd reported from Mr. Vanderbilt a written contract binding the latter to sell to the syndicate 250,000 shares of New York Central stock. This morning all the parties to the negotiation assembled in the offices of Drexel, Morgan & Co. There were present William H. Vanderbilt, the Hon Chauncey M. Depew, council of the New York Central; C. C. Clarke, Treasurer; representatives of August Belmont & Co., L. Von Hoffman & Co., Morton, Bliss & Co., Winslow, Lanier & Co., J. & W. Seligman & Co., Waerrisshoeffer Co., Kuhn, Loeb & Co., Drexel, Morgan & Co., the Drexels of Philadelphia, and J. S. Morgan & Co., of London, and Cyrus W. Field, Solon Humphreys, W. L. Scott, Russel Sage, Sidney Dillon, and D. O. Mills. These gentlemen, together with Jay Gould and the rest of his clique, not named, compose the syndicate. The list is vouched for by Cyrus W. Field. The session lasted until 2:45 P. M. The greater part of the time was taken up in arranging the percentages to the several firms or parties in interest. There were several serious disagreements, on this matter, and at one time it looked as though the whole thing would fall through. At least one gentleman quit the conference for his office early in the afternoon, and angrily announced he would have nothing to do with it. He was induced subsequently, however, to reconsider. At the hour mentioned, Drexel, Morgan & Co., sent out an official statement that the sale had been consummated.

The terms are as follows: One hundred and fifty thousand shares are bought firm, as it is known on the English market; in plain English, bought outright. The price is 150 per cent. payable in United States four per cent. bonds at par. These bonds have been quoted at 103 all the week, until yesterday, when they advanced to 103¾. The actual price will, therefore, be at the rate of $123 to $123.50 per share, or a total of about $18,487,500. This is to be paid over, and the $150,000 shares to be transferred Friday. The syndicate is also given option for one year on 100,000 shares additional at a similar price; that is, Mr. Vanderbilt binds himself to sell them that quantity of additional stock any time they may choose to purchase within a year from date at 120 per cent., payable in United States four per cent. bonds at par or whatever quotations the latter may be at the time. The stocks thus purchased are to be sold on the London market through J. S. Morgan & Co., who constitute the general agents of the New York Central, with a view to the payment of dividends there at a fair rate of exchange, transfer of stock, etc.

Mr. Vanderbilt contracts to sell or dispose of no more of his stock for one year from date. He is to continue in the control and management of the road. The Southwestern system of roads are to work in close harmony with the Lake Shore and New York Central, thus practically completing an unbroken through line from San Francisco to Boston. The effect of all this would naturally be to advance the prices of stocks of every road in the combination, and at the same time depress Erie, as the latter would appear on the surface completely shut out from any Western connection. The fact was, the news sent Erie up equally with the others.

The effects of this sale are now to be considered. If the combination that is anticipated is carried out it will make of the New York Central, the Lake Shore to Toledo, the Wabash to St. Louis and Omaha, and the Union Pacific to San Francisco—one grand through line, with the Lake Shore west of Toledo, the Canada Southern, and the numerous tributaries of the Wabash, as feeders. Such a system is grand almost beyond conception It is at once the main artery and the principal veins to the heart of the country. It has no competitor worth mentioning. The Pennsylvania and the Baltimore & Ohio become at once roads of a very inferior class, of little range and limited commercial importance

They must either make at once a prodigious expansion of connections, and in a way that is not at all clear now, or abandon all pretension to consideration as great trunk lines.

Whether the public at large will be benefited or injured by this immense concentration of interests remains to be seen. At present very grave portents fill the view.

POLICY OF LOUISIANA.

Louisiana claims that the wave of prosperity which has touched the Northern States has not yet been felt there, and that it is because of the wretched Government of "the irresponsible carpet baggers" three years ago. All the troubles that have come upon the people the lack of commercial progress, the falling off of values of all kinds have been traced directly by the people of that State to Republican rule and mismanagement. When the Democratic Government was inaugurated, it was with the broadest promises of reform. Taxes were to be lowered, the rights of colored citizens to be maintained intact, class legislation to be done away with, and every effort made to promote good feeling between the two races living upon the same soil. The result was, of course, to be the highest degree of prosperity. Long enough time has passed away to produce the promised change, and what is the state of things to-day? A special correspondent of the New York *Times* tells the story:

It is no exoggeration to say that the colored citizens of Louisiana are, for all practical purposes, as far from the ballot-box as they were 20 years ago. In many of the remote parishes they have been so shamefully defrauded and maltreated by their employers that they have been forced to leave their homes and the sunny land they love so well and seek a dwelling place in strange and far-distant places. In nine-tenths of this State the records of the Courts will be searched in vain for a case in which a white man has been successfully prosecuted for having defrauded a negro.

It is true that the taxes have been reduced a few mills, but to make up for this reduction, assessments have been increased and the bondholders so swindled that the State is to-day absolutely without credit in the markets of the world. Nor has the fictitious decrease in taxes enhanced the value of property. On the contrary, now more than ever before, real estate is a drug in the market, and before the Democratic Courts there are pending to-day 50,000 suits to recover for the State taxes which cannot be collected. Three years ago a gentleman of my acquaintance in one of the near parishes bought a plantation for $72,000, a bargain, as he thought. This, it will be remembered, was while the Republicans were in power. To-day, under the government of the much-lauded Democracy, the plantation in question is offered for sale at $50,000, and finds no purchasers. Nor is this an isolated case. If necessary, many more of the same sort might be cited. What is true of the country, is true of the city also. It is almost impossible to discuss at a fair price of even the most eligible real estate. The wave of prosperity which has begun to sweep over the rest of the country has not yet been felt here. Business men, shop-keepers and people of all sorts who live by trade complain as they never complained before. In the most prominent thoroughfares of New Orleans stores have for months been idle, and grass is literally growing high in the streets. Further than this, the many promises of public improvements made by the Government have been broken with very much the same disregard of consequences which has characterized the dealings of the Democratic leaders with the negroes. As far as can be seen, the taxes are even more shamefully misappropriated than they were claimed to have been under the Republicans. The streets of the City are shamefully neglected, and in the country the roads and bridges are in a much worse state of decay than they were three or four years ago Of the great drains and other public works which were to rid the City of all danger from yellow fever, there has been heard not one word.

One of the worst things which has been done under Democratic rule, however, is the systematic discouragement of the public schools The very means to advance the material interests of the country by giving to it a more intelligent class of citizens are what these pretended promoters of the public welfare have neglected. They do not believe in free education. By the last census outside of the City of New Orleans were 115,000 adult whites who could neither read nor write.

Democratic politicians united with the Roman Catholics who desired to make the schools sectarian, to pull them down. Teachers' salaries in New Orleans were lowered 40 per cent., and even this sum has not been paid. It is now almost the first of December, and the September dues are still not forthcoming, so that the teachers have asked the privilege of collecting $1 per month from each scholar, in order that they may have the wherewith to keep body and soul together.

While these things be, Louisiana will never prosper. Ignorance is a dead weight upon any community. It means a lack of thrift and enterprise. It means lawlessness and violence, a vicious disregard of the rights of others. It means an unleavened mass that can be moved hither and thither at the will of any who have the brains and cunning to direct its motion. The coming years will not bring prosperity to Louisiana unless she changes her principles and policy.

COL. J. B. BROWNLOW, son of the "Parson," says that he heard ANDREW JOHNSON say, after his contest for the Senate, that his policy of reconciliation was a failure so far as the Rebel leaders were concerned, and that the remainder of his days should be devoted to "reducing the d——d brigadiers to the ranks."

AN INTERESTING QUESTION.

A writer in the *Fortnightly Review* in an article upon "Parliamentary Government in America," gives a very interesting statement of the leading points of difference between the government in England and the United States. He says what perhaps many from superficial thought will be slow to admit, that the form in this country is that of the British Government of the last century, except that there is no such thing as hereditary succession. This form of Kings, Lords, and Commons has been copied not only by the general Government, but by every one of the States individually.

Instead of changing as the years have gone by, it has seemed to crystalize, and remains to-day very nearly as it was in its first adoption. The powers of each division are the same as in the time of WASHINGTON, while in England those of the Crown and the Lords are far less than under GEORGE III. The Queen now is little less than a figure head, while in the Commons is vested directly all of the real force and power of the Government. The royal sanction of a bill passed by that body is a mere matter of form, while the President's veto is all powerful, since it is almost impossible to find a majority large enough to pass it over the veto.

The important point which the writer wishes to urge upon the attention of the people, is whether it would not be wise for the United States to have "one government like the House of Commons upon which public opinion can impinge and concentrate readily and effectively, or three governments, to-wit: President, Senate and House of Representatives upon which public opinion is dispersed and unable to act effectively, except at certain periods." To carry this out, it would be necessary to give the Cabinet seats upon the floor of Congress, to have its members take the first steps in legislation, to hold them responsible for everything, and to compel them upon pain of dismissal to support the majority of the House of Representatives.

The advantages claimed for this plan are principally as follows:

1. The executive would be compelled to choose for Cabinet officers not his own personal friends as has happened in the past, but men who are shrewd, active, well-informed and able to cope as they would be compelled to do, with 400 of the keenest intellects in the country. He would select those who would be acceptable to the House and able to lead it, and this instead of adding to the executive power as has been urged in objection, would diminish it.

2. It would bring the whole frame work of the Government within the range of public influence and opinion. Now the administration can only be called to account once in four years. Then its measures would be subject to condemnation and rejection at any time. Now, before an election comes around by which dissatisfaction may be expressed, the offense itself is forgotten in some new excitement which has carried the people away. It is therefore impossible for public opinion to reach the government readily, not quickly enough to make it immediately amenable to it. If it is held that it is desirable to give the people a chance to express themselves, or rather to act upon measures while they are pending, it is necessary to have some one body of the three which shall be held responsible, and the most natural one is that which "most often returns to the people to give an account of itself," and to solicit the suffrages of the community—to wit: the House of Representatives. With the Cabinet upon its floor, held to the duties before described, public opinion could be made to reach the Executive more forcibly and directly than it can possibly do now, thus bringing two of the three branches of the Government more immediately under the control of the popular will.

These are a few of the advantages urged for this change in the form of the Government of the United States. That there are forceful objections the writer acknowledges. One of the strongest is the growth of a demagogism through universal male suffrage, which includes so much of ignorance, that the idea of the right of the majority to govern expands into one, that what that majority wants is, in itself, right. Hence it becomes a question whether it is wise to throw away the checks which would tend to prevent hasty action—whether it would really conduce to the public welfare to take away the safeguards which the minority now possesses.

At present there is little probability of any change, although the matter has been much discussed, and a bill looking that way has been introduced by Sen. PENDLETON providing that seats be assigned to the Cabinet in both branches of Congress, which they shall be free to occupy at all times, and required to at certain times, in order to answer questions propounded to them about public affairs concerning which information is needed.

CHILI AND PERU.

The latest news from the seat of war in South America shows that Peru is virtually conquered. With her naval power broken by the loss of the "Huascar," bankrupt in her financial matters, so that her currency is worth less than 30 cents upon a dollar, with a debt already of $235,000,000, upon which she cannot pay the shadow of interest, with her army cut in two and demoralized by partial defeat, the enemy upon her territory, it would seem as if all hope must die away. The Chilians, according to the last advices, have Pisagua, and Iquique was at their mercy. This throws into their hands the railroads leading into the regions where are the valuable nitrate deposits which afford such a large revenue to the Peruvian government.

Chili will undoubtedly soon dictate terms of peace to conquered Peru. The latter is now in imminent danger of an internal revolution, which will still further complicate her affairs. The former is in an excellent condition, both as regards her own internal regulations, her army and navy. The people, under a republican form of government, are happy, prosperous and contented, full of energy and enterprise, and ready to take any steps forward that the enlightened ideas of the age have declared necessary to progress. Her credit is without a flaw and altogether the contrast in her condition and that of Peru removes the result of the present war out of any problematical boundaries.

NEW YORK *Express:*

Put away the long blonde tresses
That our darling used to wear.
She will never, never need them,
For our darling hangs her hair.

AMERICAN INTERESTS ABROAD.

English Consuls in China Report that American Cotton Goods are Pushing English Fabrics Out of the Market.

We commend, says the London *Echo*, to the consideration of Manchester manufacturers the latest volume of "commercial reports" by her Majesty's Consuls in China. They will there find evidence, if they have found it nowhere else, that the success which for a time attended their efforts to "take in" John Chinaman by selling him sized cotton is now at an end, and that the astute Celestials, however anxious to buy in a cheap market, are not fools enough to be cheated long into buying glue for cotton. They have a proverb that "the conjurer does not deceive the man who beats the gong for him." Masters in the art of adulterating tea and silk they are too clever to be long deceived by professors in the same line of business. The consequences to English trade and English character are what might be expected. Manchester manufacturers are credited with being makers of shoddy goods and of little else, and the trade in foreign cotton textiles is passing into the hands of the Americans. The port of Chefoo in 1874 imported 438,399 pieces of gray shirtings; last year it imported only 229,463. Though American drill is 40 per cent dearer than English, it is driving the latter out of the market. Of English drills, 14,673 pieces were imported at Chefoo last year, and 58,108 American pieces; 871 pieces of English sheeting and 59,943 American

From Hankow, Ningpo, and other places, the reports are similar. The Lancashire manufacturers by their devotion to size are deliberately shutting themselves out from the greatest cotton markets in the world. The province of Shantung alone has a population of 30,000,000 clothed entirely in cotton Socks, caps, even shoes and boots are made of the same material. Sedan chairs are often covered with cotton, and wadded curtains of cotton often supply the places of doors in their houses. Yet the number of cotton pieces imported per annum is only 1,065,000. Last year the enormous number of 332,000,000 needles were entered at the single port of Chefoo—a remarkable indication of the vast quantities of cloth which must be made up in the province, and of the extent of the market for cotton fabrics.

THREE ORATORS.

Webster, Choate and Sumner.

Correspondence of the San Francisco Bulletin.

Thirty years ago, when a student at Amherst College, I remember going over with several of my classmates to Northampton, where Daniel Webster and Rufus Choate were the opposing lawyers in the great Oliver Smith will case. I shall never forget the impression made by the great contrast between the manner and gesticulation of these two distinguished pleaders in their closing arguments. The Court room was crowded almost to suffocation, and the immense interest involved together with the high reputation of the opposing counsel, combined to excite the attention and interest of all to a remarkable degree. Webster's gestures as well as his words, were comparatively few, but weighty, massive, the very embodiment of dignity and conscious strength. Most of the time during his half-hour argument, he stood perfectly motionless, his body slightly bent forward, and his hands behind his back Choate spoke for nearly two hours in a manner the very counterpart of Webster's, and yet equally appropriate to the speaker's individuality. He was all alert, every vein swelled to fullness, every muscle at its utmost tension. He advanced toward the jury and retreated. He rose on tip-toe, and several times in his excitement seemed to spring up entirely off his feet. He ran his long, nervous fingers through his dark hair, and anon shook them in the air above his head with so swift a motion that they seemed to run into each other like the spokes on a spinning-wheel. His plea lasted two hours. The day was hot, and when he had concluded he sank into the arms of attendants in a state of perfect exhaustion, and was borne out into the lobby like a corpse. The excitement in the court room was intense, but Webster's calm, stern logic carried the day over Choate's brilliant and fiery rhetoric. The verdict was for Webster and the will.

One word concerning the gesticulation of Charles Sumner. He was always dignified and self possessed, and, in his movements, as well as words, always conveyed the idea of deliberation and scholarly culture rather than that of spontaneous warmth and impulsive feeling which is most apt to stir emotion in a hearer. But he had one gesture which he used not often, but always once or twice in his great speeches, which never failed to send the blood thrilling to my temples; and I noticed that it had a similar effect on many others. He raised his hand higher and higher, with appropriate gesticulation, while building a climax, and when he came to cap it, he rose on tip-toe and thrust his hand up into the air with great force and with a look of exultant triumph. It was magnificent. It fitted the subject and the man.

JAPANESE ROYALTY.

Appearance of the Emperor and Empress at Their Reception of Gen. Grant.

The Emperor stood quite motionless, apparently unobservant or unconscious of the homage that was paid him. He is a young man, with a slender figure, taller than the average Japanese, and of about the middle hight, according to our ideas. He has a striking face, with a mouth and lips that remind you something of the traditional mouth of the Hapsburg family. The forehead is full and narrow, the hair and the light mustache and beard intensely black. The color of the hair darkens what otherwise might pass for a swarthy countenance at home. The face expressed no feeling whatever, and but for the dark, glowing eye, which was bent full upon the General, you might have taken the Imperial group for statues. The Empress at his side wore the Japanese costume, rich and plain. Her face was very white and her form slender and almost childlike. Her hair was combed plainly and braided with a gold arrow. The Emperor and Empress have agreeable faces, the Emperor especially showing firmness and kindness. The solemn etiquette that pervaded the audience chamber was peculiar, and might appear strange to those familiar with the stately but cordial manners of a European court. But one must remember that the Emperor holds so high and so sacred a place in the traditions, the religion and the political system of Japan, that even the ceremony of today is so far in advance of anything of the kind ever known in Japan that it might be called a revolution. The Emperor cordially shook hands with the General. Such an incident was never known in the history of Japanese majesty.

The Easy Times Great Warriors Have.

Denver (Col.) Tribune.

Piah, one of the Chiefs supposed to be engaged in the present outbreak, has been in Washington. One cold day Gov. McCook came into his office and found Piah sitting by the stove. Thinking it a good chance to deliver a lesson to the Indian, he said: "Piah, why don't you Indians plow and raise crops and build houses? You ought to work. If you did, you would not have to come here to borrow my fire, but could buy fire of your own. Why don't you work like white men?" Pish straightened up at once. "Me great warrior," said he; "Warriors never plow. Me go to Washington to see John Grant." (The Indians all call Grant "John.") "John Grant great warrior. He no work. He no plow. Me see John Grant's squaw. She no work either, too. Great warriors never work. Tell you what I do. You say to John Grant he come here and go with me. We go out and fight Rapahoes and Cheyenes, and kill plenty braves and get plenty squaws. Then squaws work, and me and John have good time. No work—no plow—no nothing." Whether the proposition was ever forwarded to Grant we do not known.

LA CREME DES CHRONIQUES.

What the Alleged Wits of Paris Find to Say in Their Newspapers.

New York World.

You should never give advice. If the person to whom you offer it is wise he doesn't need it; if he ain't he won't take it.

War nowadays between civilized nations is absurd: people who make it have not even the cannibal's excuse of hunger or gluttony.

The six great powers of Europe are England, France, Germany, Austria, Russia and Woman.

***

The American handbooks concerning the usages of good society are at least equaled by a Parisian manual of *savoir-vivre* from which the following passage is taken:

"In good society people always fold their notes or letters and fasten down the flaps of envelopes with the nails of their fingers. Inquiries are frequently made as to the reason why this should be done, and why the tips of the fingers would not answer as well. The explanation is very simple. A letter should be scrupulously neat, and the tips of the fingers are generally dirty!"

***

It was the late M. Glais-Bizoin, we think, who, during the whole duration of the Second Empire, made it a rule to spend the day in the vicinity of the Hotel de Ville in official black, with a white cravat.

"There will be a revolution some of these days," he said, "and when it comes I shall be on hand and step in."

In due course came the *decheance* of September 4, 1870; M. Glais Bizoin was on hand and stepped in.

This is recalled by an anecdote now going the rounds of a prominent Radical, who, when the nearly successful movement of Rochefort and the Reds was made against the Government of National Defense on the 31st of October, borrowed two children from a friend, knowing the rising was to take place, and went to the Hotel de Ville.

His plan covered contingency. If the Hotel de Ville demonstration proved successful—there he was. If it didn't—he had only happened that way while giving his little ones an airing.

***

Domestic economy:

An excellent housekeeper, whose success in dressing on the small allowance made her by her husband is a mystery, and who always complains of the frightfully high price of everything, is settling accounts with her green grocer.

She—I never had you send me this bunch of asperagus at six francs; it was five—I recollect it was only five.

He—I beg your pardon, madam, you see it was quite a long time ago and perhaps your memory——

She (triumphantly)—Oh, I know it was five. See, here is the house expense book I keep for my husband; he is very particular about his accounts "One bunch of asparagus, 10 francs," If it had been the price you say the entry would have been, 'One bunch of asparagus, 12 francs." Don't you see?

***

In a suburban theater they were playing a melodrama—like any melodrama that knows its business—ends with the hero running down and capturing the villain, whom, disarmed, feeble and wounded, he overtakes in a lonely wood.

Unhappily the hero's pistol is out of order as to the lock, and the hero cannot cock it so as to take his long-sought and already desired revenge.

The villain perceives what is wrong; the situation is becoming comic; with great presence of mind he snatches the pistol from the hero's hand.

"Curses upon ye all," he hisses, "shall I owe my death to a beardless boy that knows not how to cock his pistol? Never! Better, a thousand times better, to die by my own hand!" (Shoots himself amid the applause of the audience.)

***

Certificate furnished to a Parisian gunsmith by "M. le Comte de Saint-U——, one of our sportsmen, the most distinguished of the Department of l'Aveyron:"

"The choke-bored gun has surpassed my expectation for the grouping and penetration extraordinary of the shot. The results truly prodigious, which I came to obtain me have completely astonished. I have procured myself six cats, which I have made to be shut in six little cases with lids. The lid was upraising himself at the method of a cord, which permitted to free these animals at different distances. I respond to you that they have not had the time to voyage much. Two have been lamed at the distance of 35 metres by one barrel and killed stiff by the second. Of the four that remained three were thunderstruck, the one at 46 metres, the other at 54, the third at 72. As for the last, who was finding himself at about 30 steps, he has been missed, but he has not escaped for that, for, being refuged himself upon a tree, I have killed him at that same distance. I have then made to be played the cats and observed that they were riddled of shots and that in certain portions of the corpse they were completely perforated."

***

A worthy cure of Auvergne, than whom there were many cleverer if no better men, having forgotten the exordium of his sermon one fine day, could think of nothing better to begin with than this sentence: "Dearly beloved brethren, the earth we live on is round—round like an egg," and then he wandered all over creation, pronounced the benediction and dismissed them.

After the service the sexton told him he had made a blunder. "Your reverence," he said, "preached that the world is round like an egg. An egg isn't round, it's oval. You should have said that the earth is round like a bullet."

"Dear me, dear me," said the worthy clergyman, "so I should. I don't suppose any one was misled; still, to be on the safe side, I will correct the mistake in my sermon next Sunday."

Accordingly on the following Sunday the good cure began: "Dearly beloved brethren, owing to a provoking heirophemical insadvertance, I said on Sunday last that this habital globe on which we dwell was round like an egg. That, my dearly beloved brethren, was where I fooled myself. An egg, as you may have frequently observed is not round, but oval. What I meant to say and what I now say—and say it without fear of successful contradiction—is this: The earth is round like a— the earth is round like a—shem! the e a r t h"—

Here the sexton, perceiving that the cure had lost his simile, coughed significantly and imitated the action of aiming and firing off a gun.

"I have it—I know it!" said the delighted cure. "Yes, dearly beloved brethren, the world is round—like a shot gun."

Conquered.

Detroit Free Press.

About a year ago a prisoner was brought from one of the territories, in irons, and handed over with the warning that he was a desperate character, and had boasted that he would "run" the institution. He had a malignant look and a surly answer for all questions, and when ordered down into the bath room he boldly declined to go.

"Step down!" repeated the deputy.

"I won't!" replied the prisoner, backing off a little and glancing around for a weapon.

The deputy was the man for the occasion. Walking close up to the prisoner, he said, in a quiet, but far-reaching voice: "Every prisoner under this roof must obey me or die! If you are not down stairs in 30 seconds I will shoot you through the head!"

No weapons were in sight. Both men faced each other barehanded. The prisoner was a robber and a murderer. The deputy was an officer of nerve. For 10 seconds they looked into each others' eyes and read each others' thoughts. Then the prisoner turned and went down stairs, and from that day to this he has been as submissive and obedient as any man in the prison.

"Volumes!" Amateur Composer—"Heard my new song?" Candid Friend, (with a perceptible shudder)—"Oh, lor! I hope so!"—*Punch.*

SAN MARINO.

"A Rare Sample of a Republic."

The little Republic of San Marino, which, by the mouth of one of its most prominent officials, gave an indignant denial, a few weeks ago, to the assertion that it intended authorizing the introduction of gaming tables, is inclosed in the kingdom of Italy. It is bounded on the north, east and south by the province of Forli, and on the west by that of Pesaro. Its territory covers 82 square kilometres (about 33 square miles.) The population numbers 8,500 souls, and the capital, San Marino, has 1,200. It is perched on the summit of a mountain called Mt. Titan, or the Giants, which sometimes leads to this little State being termed the Titanic Republic. Its origin dates from several centuries back, and for heraldic bearings it has the following: Argent, three strong towers; azure, on three rocks of the same; three curved flames gules issue from the towers and crown them. The motto is "Libertas." The escutcheon is surrounded by flags, and surmounted by a crown indicating a sovereign State. The Republic has an order of chivalry, created in 1859, under the name of the Order of San Marino. It consists of a Greek cross with towers at the four angles, and in the center a medallion with the arms of the Republic surmounted by a princely crown closed, and suspended to a striped blue and white ribbon. These are the national colors. In 1796, Bonaparte, after defeating the Austrians, sent the celebrated mathematician Mongo to compliment the free mountaineers and make them offers of aggrandizement, but they very politely and very prudently declined. When Italy became a Kingdom, Napoleon desired to preserve this small State intact. "It is a rare sample of a Republic to preserve," said the Emperor. In 1849, Garabaldi, driven from Rome by Gen. Oudinot, took refuge in San Marino, forbidding his soldiers to do any harm to the inhabitants. Victor Emanuel not only respected the liberty and institutions of this little country, but always showed it great sympathy, especially on his visit to Bologna at the time of the Ancona Railway in 1861. In 1862 a treaty of customs and commerce was concluded between Italy and the Republic. San Marino owes its foundation to a hermit of that name, born in Dalmatia in the fourth century, and who went to Italy to work as a mason at the rebuilding of the walls of Rimini. Marino afterwards took refuge in the midst of the woods on Mt. Titan, and constructed there a cabin, in which he ended his days. The place where he expired soon became the object of pilgrimages, and houses were built there, which ultimately formed the town of San Marino. The fete of the saint is celebrated on the 4th of September.

A Good Story.

N. Y. World.

The following story is told regarding Gen. M. T. Donohue, the candidate for Secretary of State on the Butler ticket. An artist who recently painted a picture of the General received two callers the other day who wished to look upon the counterfeit presentment. It was shown, and one of the visitors, who spoke with the brogue that Gen. Scott admired so much, approached the likeness, with the evident intention of putting his finger on it and pointing out some special excellence, remarking, "Bedad, it's the Gineral!" The frightened artist of course followed, saying, "Don't touch it; it's dry." "Bedad, thin," said Pat, "it's not the Gineral."

CHOICE POETRY.

Attractive Offers for Holidays.

In the subjoined list are a few, and only a few, volumes of choice poetry, which we offer to our readers for a limited time, at prices simply unheard of. Any volume named will be sent postpaid at the price designated, or with the BLADE, one year, for $1.75 for the two.

THE NEW DAY, by Richard Watson

Answers to Correspondents.

We are obliged to remind our readers that there are certain classes of questions which we cannot undertake to answer, viz:

1. Those not accompanied by the name of the writer. The name is not required for publication, but only as an evidence of good faith. All letters not complying with this rule find their way at once into the waste-basket.

2. Mathematical problems, and questions in grammatical construction. We are willing to give all our readers an opportunity to ask and answer the former, but we have not the type necessary for publishing algebraic problems and solutions.

3. Questions which in the judgment of the editor are not appropriate or proper for the columns of the BLADE. Hundreds of questions come to this department every week, and the editor must be allowed to exercise his discretion in making selections calculated to promote the general interest.

4. Inquiries as to the standing or reliability of individuals, firms, or corporations, doing a general business. The BLADE'S endorsement is too valuable to be bestowed indiscriminately, and it is not always possible for us to devote the time necessary to ascertain the standing of an individual or a firm located in a distant part of the country.

Correspondents whose inquiries are not answered within a reasonable time would do well to repeat them. If they still fail to receive an answer they are asked to believe that the question remains unanswered for good and sufficient reason.

We must request that subscribers will keep all communications for the business and editorial departments of the BLADE entirely separate and distinct, always upon separate leaves. Questions for this department should never be written on the same leaf with letters containing subscriptions or orders for books.

A. I. S., Kelthsburg, Ill.: It is said to be.

H. G. D., Rockford, Ill.: Very sorry we cannot.

FRANK H., Decatur, Tex.: We know of no such publication.

F. S. W., Altus, Ark.: We do not know the parties named.

C. W. R., Tiffin, O.: Write to Robert Clarke & Co., Cincinnati, O.

F. A. F., Mecca, ill.: We regret to say that we have not the book named.

GRENVILLE, Du Quoin, Ill.: Write to the Governor or Secretary of State.

C. M. C., Germantown, Tenn.: We have every reason to suppose they are.

T. C. C., Logan, O.—See different styles and prices of Shakespeare in Catalogue sent you.

J. B. B., Quincy, Ill.: You will find in Hoyle full instructions regarding euchre, rules, etc.

K. S. C., Urian City, Cal.: Thanks for your card. Opinions and theories, of course, will differ.

J. B. BELL, Urbana, O., wishes the address of Dr. Natchet, late surgeon of Co. B, 106th Ohio Vol. Inf.

D. N. C., Toledo, O.: See paragraph at the head of this column regarding anonymous communications.

M. A. B., Deerfield, Va.: We know nothing of the parties named, except as stated in their advertisement.

J. M. H., Young Hickory, O.: Write to the Secretary of State at Columbus, or apply to your member of the Legislature.

A. L. V., Dickensonville, Va.: We should be glad to oblige you, but we really have no time to undertake the task you propose.

HON. E. A. S., Wellington, Kan.: 1. Address the "Poultry World," Hartford, Conn. 2. See BLADE of last week, with full particulars.

N. F. R., Logan, Kan.: We believe the person you name is in Washington connected with some of the departments as a clerk.

MARY A. T., Oak Ridge, Ill.: There are a great many persons of the name you give. Can you not furnish a more definite description?

FRESNO G., New Orleans, La.: We believe that work has been suspended for the present. Write to Secretary of the Treasury, Washington, D. C.

H. C. DOWSEY, Andover, Mo., desires information as to the whereabouts of J. H. Peabody, Surgeon of the Marine Hospital at St. Louis, Mo., in 1863.

A. L. VICARS, Dickensonville, Va., asks: Can any one give me the address of J. R. Cook, of New York, who addressed an audience at Athens, Tenn., January 4, 1878.

REMS, F. RAWSON, North Topeka, Kan., desires the address of any of the officers or privates of Co. F, 58 Mass. Cav.; also of the Regimental Surgeon, ——Johnson.

SAMUEL STEINBRAKER, Toledo, O., formerly of Co. B, 100th Ohio Infy., desires to obtain the address of any two fellow soldiers who were in prison with him at Belle Isle.

NEWTON PORTER, Rosamond, Ill., wishes the address of Capt. Foster, of the United States gunboat "Chillicothe," of the Mississippi squadron, or any of his crew.

W. S. FOWLE, Centerburg, O., wishes to obtain the postoffice address of Dr. Menser, who was First Surgeon in the Mill ary Hospital at York, Pa., in the Winter of 1864-65.

M. S. HOVAR, Hannibal, O., asks: "Can any of the readers of the BLADE inform me of the whereabouts of Samuel Angus? When last heard from he was near Vandalia, Ill."

S. L., Fairfield, Neb., asks: "Have Wise and Farr, who ascended in the balloon from St Louis, been found yet? If so, please state where and when."—They have never been found.

J. H. L., Decatur, Mich., asks: "Has the United States half-dollar of date of 1822 any value to collectors above its face?"—It is not quoted as having any value above its face.

G. H. B., Wakeeney, Kan., asks: Will J. S., whose article on Alfalfa is copied into the BLADE from the *Rural New Yorker*, please give his address? I would like to correspond with him.

O. H. KRAMER, Brookville, Wis., desires to obtain the address of the person of the same name who wrote an article relating to Andersonville, which was published in the BLADE of September 4 h.

DAVID L. P., Lutonville, Mo.: 1. Address the American Bee Journal, Chicago. 2. We know nothing about the article named. 3. The Forty-fifth Congress will be Democratic in both Senate and House.

J. M., Bristol, Minn.: We have no special offer outstanding of Webster's Dictionary in connection with the BLADE. The only place you can get it is by sending to G. & C. Merriam, Springfield, Mass.

W. M. H., Jameson, Mo., asks: "Will you please inform me of what profession Edward Eggleston, author of 'Hoosier Schoolmaster,' etc., is a member—law or divinity?"—He is a clergyman by profession.

M. F. GAMES, Ogden, Mich., desires information of a man by the name of D. L. Adams, believed to be living somewhere in Michigan. He was on detached duty in the officers' hospital at Annapolis, Md., during the war.

JOHN F. FERRIS, Nelsonville, Mo., asks: "Can any of the readers of the BLADE give me the address of Capt. George Detwiler, Captain of Co. C, 5th Iowa Cavalry, or George C. Hamlin, Orderly Sergeant of the same company?"

R. A., Paris, Ia.: The road you want to make the trip is the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago and connections from the latter point via Mansfield, O., and Pittsburg. It does not touch Columbus. The fare would be in the neighborhood of $20.

O. P., Toledo, O., asks: "Will you please inform me through the BLADE whether the small one cent piece of 1857 is worth any more than its face value, and if so, where can I sell them?"—The cent of 1857 is quoted as scarce, and worth from 3 to 10 cents each. Try J. T. Sealy, Hammonton, N. J.

A. W. D., Santa Rosa, Mo., asks: "Can a farmer sell tobacco in the hand in small quantities?"—A farmer who sells tobacco as such, that is as a grower, is not required to pay any tax. Should he buy tobacco to sell again (that is as a dealer), or should he manufacture it, he is obliged to pay a tax.

H. M. R., Swan, Ind., writes: "M. A. C., of Pulaski, Pa., is overflowing with amusement. I would like to ask him how far he can lift himself up by the hair of the head. He very cunningly evades saying the center wheel is fastened on the axle, which if it is, must necessarily slip the difference, and if loose, it would turn enough faster than the axle to make the difference."

J. C. M., Ireland, O., asks: "1. Are the members of the Ohio Legislature paid by the session or day? How much? 2. Are extra sessions constitutional? 3. What institution would you advise any one to attend, wishing to take a course in pharmacy?"—1. Five dollars a day for each actual days service. 2. Yes. 3. The Philadelphia College is a very good one, although we prefer not to discriminate.

G. H. N., Corunna, Ill., writes: "I was discharged from the United States service, in October, 1862, by reason of a Surgeon's certificate of disability. I made application, and got a pension in 1871. Please inform me if I am entitled to arrears."—You are entitled to arrears of pension under the act of January 25, 1879, from the date of your discharge in October, 1862, to the date your pension commenced in 1873. Write to the Commissioner of Pensions for payment in full.

MRS. Z. L. P., Linden, Mich., wishes to ascertain the whereabouts of Ammeon E. Bidgood, who enlisted in the 1st Michican Cavalry at Kalamazoo, Mich., in Kilpatrick's Division After Custer came in charge they were sent to Salt Lake, in 1865. The last heard from him was February 22, 1866 from Salt Lake, Utah Ter. He was an only son of George W. and Lucinda Bidgood, now of Battle Creek, Mich. News was received from the Adjutant General's office, Detroit, that he was transferred from Co. B to Co. A, 1st Mich. Cav., and was murdered at Salt Lake City, March 10, 1866.

D. B. S., Palo, Kan., asks: "Will you please explain how the term 'foolscap' as applied to paper is derived?". It is stated that the term foolscap is derived from the fact that Charles I. granted to certain parties a monopoly of the manufacture of paper, and every sheet bore in its water-marks the royal arms. The Parliament under Cromwell, made jest of this in every conceivable manner, and ordered the royal arms to be removed from the paper, and the fool's cap and bells substituted. These were removed after the restoration, but paper of the size of the Parliament journals always retained the name of "foolscap."

J. J. F., Staffordsville, N. J., asks: "Will you please state how the term 'pin money' originated?" The term pin money has long been understood to mean a lady's allowance of money for her own personal expenditures. In the 14th century the maker of pins was allowed to sell them in open shop only on the 1st and 2d of January. It was then that the court ladies and city dames flocked to the depots to buy them, having been first provided with money by their husbands. When pins became cheap and common, the ladies spent their allowances on other fancies, but the term "pin money" remained in vogue.

G. E. S., Springville, Ky., asks: "Will you please explain the rank of Admiral in our navy, state when it was created, etc.?"—The title of Admiral is the highest rank of naval officer. By an act of the Congress of the United States of July 16, 1862, the navy of the Union was divided into nine grades, of which the highest was that of Rear Admiral. In the British navy the Admirals are graded in three classes, according to the color of their flag—Admiral of the Red, of the White, and of the Blue. In a fleet disposed in battle array the first of these holds the center, the second the van, and the third the rear. Admiral of the Fleet is simply an honorary distinction, with increase of pay.

H. F. R., Roxana, Mich., asks: "Will you please state how many electoral votes there are in each State?"—As at present constituted, the electoral college is made up as follows: Alabama, 10; Arkansas, 6; California, 6; Colorado, 3; Connecticut, 6; Delaware, 3; Florida, 4; Georgia, 11; Illinois, 21; Indiana, 15; Iowa, 11; Kansas, 5; Kentucky, 12; Louisiana, 8; Maine, 7; Maryland, 8; Massachusetts, 13; Michigan, 11; Minnesota, 5; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 15; Nebraska, 3; Nevada, 3; New Hampshire, 5; New Jersey, 9; New York, 35; North Carolina, 10; Ohio, 22; Oregon, 3; Pennsylvania, 29; Rhode Island, 4; Tennessee, 12; South Carolina, 7; Texas, 8; Vermont, 5; Virginia, 11; West Virginia, 5; Wisconsin, 10. Making a total of 369 electoral votes. Of these Hayes received 185 and Tilden 184.

E. C., Romeo, Mich., asks: "Did Texas ever belong to the United States previous to the annexation in 1845? I never knew anything to warrant this belief until reading "Benton's Thirty Years View of the Senate," in which he alludes to the purchase of Florida and cession of Texas; also saying that it was included in the Louisiana purchase, but can find nothing in history concerning this transaction."—In 1803, Spain, which was then the owner, ceded Louisiana, and the vast and widespread territory beyond to the United States. In 1819 a long continued controversy between the United States and Spain regarding the Texan boundary resulted in the establishment of the river Sabine as the boundary line, thus: this gave Texas to Mexico, and she so remained until the Texans conquered an independence in 1836. Texas was annexed to the United States in 1845, by her own free will.

R. W., Maris, Kan.: The United States Government does not undertake to reward inventors or discoverers, but leaves them to secure their own rewards through the workings of a general patent law. If your invention is of any real value, we should advise you, by all means to secure a patent for it. You can then occupy a position to realize all the pecuniary benefits possible. If your principle is new the best possible place to have it tested is the Patent Office at Washington. We merely suggest that it is quite possible that you will find a score or more of patents covering the same ground as your own invention. A very good plan would be to have an official examination made of the drawings and the specifications of the Patent Office records, made by some reliable patent attorneys, such as A. H. Evans & Co., of Washington, D. C. They will treat your communication confidentially, and tell you definitely whether or not the invention or discovery has any novelty in it.

M. M., Clarinda, Ia., asks: "Will you please give a brief sketch of the life of James Buchanan?"—James Buchanan, fifteenth President of the United States, was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, April, 1791. He was a graduate of Dickinson College, and was a limit-

The Sunday School.

The Heavenly City.

LESSON 11, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1879.

GOLDEN TEXT.—For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God—Heb. 11: 10.

LESSON TEXT.

Rev. 21: 21-27; 22: 1-5.

21. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass. 22. And I saw no temple therein, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. 23. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it; for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. 24. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it; and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day; for there shall be no night there. 26. And they shall bring the glory and honor of the nations into it. 27. And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie; but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life. 1. And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out the throne of God and of the Lamb. 2. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month; and the leaves of tree were for the healing of the nations. 3. And there shall be no more curse; but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him. 4. And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. 5. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun, for the Lord giveth them light, and they shall reign for ever and ever.

ILLUSTRATIVE APPLICATIONS.

Twelve gates (v. 21.)—Wherever a sinner starts from, heaven lies only in one direction from him. He can never reach it except by going in the single narrow path straight toward it. He must not turn to the right hand or to the left. But while he is going that way, others are going from other starting-points toward the same destination. When he and they have reached the heavenly city from opposite directions, each will find a gate open immediately before him. Whichever of the dozen gates he enters will bring a sinner fairly inside the city walls. How surprised we shall be, when we shall pass into one gate, to see a stream of the saved coming in from the opposite direction! They will come in from denominations of Christians which we were accustomed to count frightfully unsound; from outside religions and far away peoples, and even from those who were called heathens and pagans. Then, if never before, we shall be ready to say with the apostle: "Of a truth, I perceive that God is no respecter of persons; but in every nation he that feareth him and worketh righteousness is accepted with him." Yet by whichever gate one enters the heavenly city, he enters as a sinner redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. He comes as one who recognized his sinfulness, repented of it, turned to God, and walked toward him by faith because he could not walk it by sight. His trust, where knowledge failed him, rested on God's plan of salvation through him, even though he was unconscious of the fact. There are 12 gates into the heavenly city, but there is only "one God, and one mediator between God and man, the man christ Jesus;" and that man Christ Jesus said concerning the way into the heavenly city, "I am the way. No man cometh unto the Father"—or unto the "Father's house"—"but by me."

No temple:.... for the Lord.... and the Lamb are the temple (v. 22.)—When we are at the dinner table we have no need of a lunch-basket. When we stand on a high hill on the New England sea-coast, with the trading air of the ocean breezes filling every pore of our lungs, it is time essay for us to have any aspirations to go and get a breath of bottled oxygen. When we can sit down face to face with the dearest friend we have in the world, we are not tempted to turn to the imperfect and restricted agency of pen and paper in order that we may give expression to our assurances of affection and confidence. It is all "correspondence" then, and that in words, in feeling, in sympathy of heart with heart. Lunch baskets may be required by the traveler journeying to the home of plenty; bottled oxygen may be a necessity with one who is cramped in a close sleeping car on his way to the region of free and refreshing sea air; loving letters are the only available substitute for the unrestrained communion of loving souls whom distance for a time separates; but the need for all these ceases when that is secured which at the best they represent but feebly. So in the spiritual life. The Bible is a lunch basket to the heaven-bound traveler. "Thy words were found, and I did eat them." The sacrament supplies bottled oxygen to the fainting soul: "My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth, for the courts of the Lord." Worship is the letter writing of the soul to the supreme object of its loving devotion. "Oh that I knew where I might find him!" Then in glory come even to his seat!" But all this is for now. To the redeemed soul there is something better by and by. "When that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away."

They shall bring the glory and honor of the nations into it (v. 26.)—Not only individual souls, but nations as nations, shall contribute to the glory and honor of the name of the redeemed. And what are the glory and honor of a nation? Are they its pyramids and obelisks; its palaces and temples; its aqueducts and bridges and railroads; its armies and navies, and commercial marine? Are they its wealth and its science and enterprise; its rapid growth, and its far reaching plans of territorial extension? Shall these things contribute to the treasures of heaven? No we all know better than that. But there are national glories and national honors which shall be recognized in heaven. When a nation is a Christian nation; when it represents and illustrates Christian civilization and Christian progress; when it multiplies Christian schools and Christian colleges; when it builds up Christian churches at home, and sends out Christian missionaries to the ends of the earth; when it governs wisely and well its people at home, and in faithfulness and justice watches over their interests while they are abroad; when it does its utmost to discourage war, to promote peace, to guard and maintain a high standard of honor and purity and integrity in public stations and in private life; when it offers an asylum to the oppressed and needy of every race and of every clime; when it does justice by all who have come within its borders, or were there before its own existence; when it does God's service, and fills its God-given place—then, and only then, has a nation a glory and honor which are worthy to be brought within the heavenly city. What can you and I do to help our nation to a fitness for a recognition in heaven?

They shall see his face (v. 4.)—Even the picture of a loved one's face is a comfort in his absence. How our hearts have gladdened and our souls refreshed, now our love has been quickened and our faith strengthened, by our study of such a picture in some hour of special doubt or of peculiar sorrow! Its eyes have looked love and sympathy into our eyes, and its lips have spoken words of courage and comfort to our heavy ears. And how much more is a face than its picture! How the face of a friend has been as new life to us when it came unexpectedly before us at a time of loneliness and need! We could do or endure anything then. In our absence from the Lord, by our presence in the body, our hearts long for a glimpse of the divine countenance. "When thou saidest seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek." And the promise is that those who seek shall find. "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God." No longer forced to be content with pictured representations of him on the sacred page, but seeing him face to face." "Beloved now are we the sons of God; and it doth not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."—*H. Clay Trumbull, in S. S. Times.*

PITH AND POINT.

Miss Mary Travis is an English lady who a few weeks ago reached the age of 100 years, and by the Vicar of Cottingham was baptized.

Alfonso is lucky. He possessed two wedding belles in his brief reign. Now he is going to ring and Marie Christine.—*New York Telegram.*

Miss Kate Field will sail for America the latter part of this month, and after she has rested she will appear in her musical monologue, "Eyes and Ears in London."

Prof. Proctor says the earth is 500,000,000 years old. And we believe him. Almost every day we come across a joke that is every whit as venerable as that.—*Boston Transcript.*

The great cathedral at Cologne has been building for 626 years and isn't completed yet. Now we have strong hopes for the Washington monument.—*Boston Transcript.*

Little flops of buckwheat,
Golden lumps to match,
Makes a mighty nehing,
And a constant scratch.
—*Avon Herald.*

The newly-elected Governor of New York is of age, but Roscoe Conkling wants it understood that he dosen't intend relinquishing his claim as guardian.—*Philadelphia Chronicle-Herald.*

Maud—"And now you've shown me all your favors, dear, do tell me who was there—the men, of course, I mean." Alice—"Oh, let me see! There were lots of Harvard men, of course—yes, and some *real* men."—*Lampoon.*

The Boston *Post* says: A man may ask you to see that his grave is kept green, and yet, when you assure him that it shall be, that you'll go every day and wet it down with a garden hose, he doesn't somehow feel comforted.

From the General to the Particular: The new Governess—"Now I suppose you know that there are three times as much water as land upon the surface of the earth?" Tommy—"I should think so, indeed! Look at the puddles!"—*Punch.*

A very old lady on her death-bed in a penitential mood said: "I have been a great sinner more than 80 years, and didn't know it." An old darkey woman, who had lived with her a long time, exclaimed: Lors! I knowed it all the time."

The new Queen of Spain is evidently in favor of the silver monument. Her wedding dress will be made of cloth of silver.—*Free Press.* It will be placed on a bridal train and made to come down below the Pyrenees.—*Richmond (Va.,) Baton.*

The subject for conversation at an evening entertainment was the intelligence of animals, particularly dogs. Says Smith: "There are dogs that have more sense than their masters." "Just so," responded Fitzroodle. "I've got that kind of a dog myself."

There is an urchin in New Britain, Conn., who will revolutionize the art of dentistry if his muscle holds out. He recently succeeded in capturing a neighbor's cat, and by some means best known to himself managed to extract every tooth from the lower jaw.

An Edinburg woman, whose husband had beaten her 320 times in four years, had him arrested, and he was sent to jail for three days. The punishment was too light. The brute should have been sent to jail for a whole week. The next thing we know he'll get locked up for a month.—*Norr. Herald.*

Helen's Babies have moved to Binghamton. They started a fire in a barn the other day, and explained after it had been out that they "wanted to see the firemen roll the cart!" The view was denied them; but they had a view of the floor instead: from the attitude of their papa's knee.—*Buffalo Express.*

The great carpet mills and other large factories empty their waste into the Schuylkill River. So do the City gas works. So does the Village of Schuylkill Falls. Then Philadelphia dams this water for the citizens to drink. The citizens do the same and drink it.—*Free Press.*

An exchange stops to remark that a sacred concert now begins with a psalm tune, ends with "Old Hundred," and puts Chopin and Auber back between the two, and the people think it just like a sandwich—two pieces of dry bread on the outside and a slice of good ham in the middle.

"Some more cheese, please," said a small boy of eight to his papa at dinner. "No, my child," was the reply of the prudent parent; "you have already had enough. When I was a child I had to eat my bread and smell my cheese." Well," said sonny, "please give me a piece to smell."—*Portland Transcript.*

At a shoemaker's ball in Philadelphia a reporter says that "feet of every size, from a fine taper in white kid to pudding shaped pedals in full skin welted the wax on the floor in harmony with the music. They waxed warmed and pegged away until late next morning. It was a whole-souled affair."

Jerrold could say things sharper than a surgeon's knife when he was in ill temper. A gentleman who was very sensitive about a book which he had just had published said to him: "Mr. Jerrold, I understand that you have told Mr. Blank that my last book was the worst I ever wrote." "No, I did not," said the gruff wit: "I told him it was the worst book anybody ever wrote."

A little girl, of some 7 years, who is very regular and intent on her bedtime prayers, was recently saying them with her usual care and thoroughness, when a brother, somewhat her senior, said to her in a sort of fatherly and patronizing manner: "Sissie, if you are so long saying your prayers on cold nights you will freeze, like me; I just say 'ditto,' and hop right into bed."

A Walnut street clerk was discharged and asked the reason. "You are so awful slow about everything," said his employer. "You do me an injustice," responded the clerk, "there is not one thing I am not slow about." "I should be delighted to hear you name it," sneered the proprietor. "Well," said the clerk, slowly, "nobody can get tired as quick as I can." A motion for a reconsideration of his case has been referred to the proper committees.—*Des Moines Register.*

The Economy of a "Scalp" Ticket.

As the train leaves the depot a young man leans over the back of my seat and asks me what I paid for my ticket. I tell him and he chuckles. He bought a ticket of a scalper and is a dollar and a half ahead of the railroad company. He flatters me because I do not know how to travel, and I blush and feel cheap in the presence of his superior sagacity. The conductor comes along. He punches my ticket with a ready, unquestioning acceptance that makes me an honest man, and I feel proud. He takes the shrewd young man's ticket and gazes at it with an awful scrutiny.

"Where are you going?" he asks the young man.

The young man gazes at him with the unflinching glance of a citizen who knows his rights and the railroad law.

"I am going to Indianapolis," he said, defiantly, "and that ticket is good until it is used."

"Certainly," replied the conductor, apparently greatly terrified by the young man's defiant attitude, "of course it is; but it's got to be used on its own road, and as this is a Wabash excursion ticket of last Summer, from Peru to Lafayette, you'll have to get on a Wabash train and go to Lafayette to use it. Fare, please."

And the young man read the ticket carefully and paid his fare and planked down the extra 10 cents for having no ticket. He has gone into the smoking car now and has his head out of the window but I can hear him swearing with startling energy and appalling grammar.

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(A Medicine, not a Drink,)
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$1000 IN GOLD.
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HOP COUGH CURE is the sweetest, safest and best. Ask Children.
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She Wanted a Letter Written.

Henry Houck, esq., Deputy State Superintendent of Public Instruction, tells the following funny story: While in his office at the Department of Public Instruction, in this City, one day a timid and [illegible] rustic looking girl came in and after a while asked if there was any one there who would write a letter for her, as she herself could not very well write it. Under her instruction he wrote the letter. She began in the usual style and gave all the local news—that Susan Jane was married, that John Smith was dead, that the baby had been sick but was well again, that the sheep had been shorn, and the hay crop harvested, etc. After the letter was finished, and he was about to seal the envelope, she told him that she had forgotten one thing, whereupon he took out the letter and asked her what the important omission was, whereupon she told him to say, P. S.—*Please excuse bad spelling and writing.* He assured her that it was unnecessary. But it was no use. In her estimation the letter was incomplete without a P. S.

In the Nature of a Threat.

Louisville Courier Journal.

Murat Halstead continues to abuse Gen. Grant. When Grant is Emperor and we command the military district, of which Cincinnati shall be army headquarters, and Murat Halstead comes to us for a pass, he shall be politely refused.

WOMEN IN WESTERN EUROPE.

They are Employed Everywhere.

Mrs. Charlotte Wilburn says of women in Western Europe: "It is true there is scarcely a public place where you do not find a woman—in the railway station, ticket office, concert rooms, theaters, hotel offices, restaurants, eating stands, shops, churches, factories and trades. They are cashiers, and clerks in commercial houses; they are in telegraph and newspaper offices, editorial chairs, printing and publishing houses, baths and chiropodists' chairs. Not long since the French Academy conferred the medal of honor on a young telegraph operator for her great service, rendered at the risk of her life during the late war. And after the 16th of May of last year, till October of the same year, the President of the Republic was persecuting the editors of liberal journals, imposing heavy fines upon them, sending them to prison, and otherwise discomfiting them. Many editors' wives and sisters took the editorial chairs and successfully conducted the journals in spite of the condemnations of the clergy and even excommunication by the Bishops, the most bitter trial a French woman of the Church can be subjected to. Numerous fashion magazines published in Paris are very nearly supplied with their literary matter by young women who have other regular employment. Last year, during the Exposition, I had ample opportunity to observe how ably the most ordinary French women performed their duty in spite of confusion and perplexities that often disorder the strongest male head. From early morning till late evening, delicate looking women stood in railway stations and at stalls and dealt out tickets and change to crowds of impatient, jostling strangers, who, understanding neither the coinage nor the language, at the same time were tormented by the conviction that the French wanted to take the advantage of them. The assertion that women are too nervous for public places of trust from that time lost all effect upon my mind. Woman's advancement is accomplished when she is trained for business or the professions, and need not depend for her livelihood, as most women do in America, upon being handy."

MISCELLANEOUS.

A CARD.

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, &c., I will send a recipe that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the REV. JOSEPH T. INMAN, Station D, New York City.

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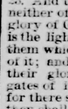
BREAD PREPARATION.



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The Healthful and Nutritious,
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It is better and Healthier than ordinary Baking Powder, Cream Tartar or Yeast.
The cost of Raising Bread, Biscuit, etc., with it is only about half as much as by ordinary Baking Powder, and the result is much better.
It restores the nutritious elements which are taken from the flour in boiling. No ordinary Baking Powder or anything else used for raising bread does this.
Universally used and recommended by prominent Physicians.
Put up in packages containing 11 ounces, just enough for 25 pounds of flour.
A sample sufficient for one quart of flour sent post-paid on receipt of a three cent stamp. For $5 cents, in stamps or currency, we will send, post-paid, a regular package sufficient for 25 pounds of flour.
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THESE DRAWINGS, AUTHORIZED BY ACT OF THE LEGISLATURE, AND SUSTAINED BY ALL THE COURTS OF KENTUCKY, (all fraudulent advertisements of other lottery companies who claim to be authorized by the grant in Kentucky, to the contrary notwithstanding), occur regularly ON THE LAST DAY OF EVERY MONTH, Sundays excepted, and are supervised by prominent citizens of the State.
Grand and unprecedented success of the new Kentucky Lottery.
Every ticket-holder can be his own supervisor. Call out his number and see it placed in the wheel. The Management call attention to the grand opportunity presented for only $2. any of

THE FOLLOWING PRIZES:

1 Prize	$20,000	100 Prizes, $100 each,	$10,000
1 Prize	10,000	200 Prizes, 50 each,	10,000
1 Prize	5,000	400 Prizes, 25 each,	10,000
		1000 Prizes, 10 each,	10,000
10 Prizes, $1,000 each, $10,000			
20 Prizes, 500 each, 10,000			
9 Prizes, $300 each, Approximation Prizes			$2,700
9 Prizes, 200 " "			1,800
9 Prizes, 100 each, " "			900
1,980 Prizes,			$112,400

Whole Tickets, $2. Half Ticket, $1.
27 Tickets, $50. 55 Tickets, $100.
All applications for club rates should be made to the home office only.
Full list of drawing published in Louisville Courier-Journal, New York Herald, and mailed to all ticket-holders. For tickets and information, address only T. J. COMMERFORD, Courier-Journal Building, Louisville, Ky., or same per son, 319 Broadway, New York.

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Only 10,000 Tickets Issued. Capital Prize, $500,000.
$1,350,000 CASH GIFTS.

1st Prize	$500,000
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3d Prize	50,000
10 Prizes, $10,000 each	100,000
12 Prizes $5,000 each	60,000
596 Prizes amounting to	540,000

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Wholes, $75; halves, $37.50; quarters, $20; tenths, $7.50; twentieths, $4. Full descriptive circulars free. Prizes cashed.
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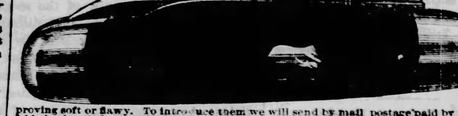

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THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE CO., Pubrs.

TOLEDO, O., THURSDAY, DEC. 4, 1879.

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BUFFALO *Express*: "Necessity is the mother of THOMAS EDISON."

NEW YORK *Tribune*: It took BAYARD just 48 hours to talk himself out of the Presidential race.

DUBUQUE *Times*: If it be BLAINE, let us have Gen. BEN HARRISON, of Indiana, in the second place.

OUR Book business has received a very widespread and lively "boom." Now is the time to make selections.

THE supporters of a sound finance will find meat of a very substantial kind in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury.

SIX Counties in Nebraska voted solidly Republican at the late election, not a Democratic or Greenback vote being cast for State officers.

WE have just issued another new book catalogue which contains more titles than any yet published. Copies by mail free on request.

THE French are getting stirred up over their trade with foreign countries. They will need to change their laws, if they want to compete with England and Germany.

TRADE combinations seem to be increasing everywhere. The English sugar refiners have lately united to reduce the productions of sugar in order to keep down prices.

OUR list of books offered *free* to subscribers of the BLADE who send us $1.75 at the time of ordering, contains this week a number of new and valuable works. Consult the fifth page of the paper.

PERHAPS the most unhappy man in Congress is Sen. THURMAN. He tried to coerce the North and repudiated his financial convictions in order that he might have "trimmer and bulldozer" as his epitaph.

THE ex Confederates and the Northern Democrats in the Forty-Sixth Congress have to blame for the blunders of other of being session, which brought on the extra their woe.

THE experiment of lighting the reading room of the British Museum by electricity began on the 20th of October, and is to continue until March. There are four lamps of 5,000 candle-power, and the brilliancy of the illumination is said to excel that of daylight.

ONLY think of this: We will send post paid to any address a copy of Tennyson's poems, price, $1.50; Bret Harte's Tales of the Argonauts, price, $2.00; and Rice's Poems, price $1.00, for only $2.00. All these volumes must be ordered together, under this offer.

BUFFALO *Express*: "You have not given me my change," said a gentleman to the saloon keeper. "I gave you a five-dollar bill, you know." "Shange, shange!" was the astonished reply. "Vot you mean? Vusn't you a gandidate, don't it? Vy, you musht be a sdranger."

THE official canvass of the vote cast in Nebraska for Supreme Judge, at the late election, shows these results: Cobb, (Rep.) 46,113; Waksely, (Dem.) 20,827; Saxon, (Grbk.) 4,725—Republican majority, 20,561. The vote for Supreme Judge in 1877 was: Republican, 29,569; Democratic, 15,689 — Republican majority 13,920.

THE attornies managing the income case against TILDEN have discovered where he made $501,700 in one operation in 1869 without risking a cent. Altogether they have found that he made $1,100,000, in that year, while he swore that he made only $14,000. Reading this one does not find it difficult to believe GEORGE ALFRED TOWNSEND'S informant, who claims TILDEN is worth fully 20 millions.

SATURDAY King ALFONSO, and the Austrian Princess were made one. The Spanish hail with delight their new Queen, and Madrid is blazing with excitement. The Arch-Duchess is said to have been greatly agitated during the ceremonies. No doubt the thought of the beautiful MERCEDES, who so short time ago, stood a bride by ALFONSO'S side, came to her, and she could not but wonder what the future held joy or sadness for herself.

CURRENT EVENTS.

The Forty-sixth Congress met in regular session at Washington on Monday. It enters upon the work of the session under circumstances somewhat different from those which characterized the extra session of last summer. Then a boisterous and defiant majority consumed their time in blustering and threatening violent obstruction to the wheels of the government, ending by a gradual and ignominious withdrawal from all the positions they had so boastfully assumed. The same party reassembles in Congress, after having suffered the most stinging and unqualified rebuke from the people of the North, leaving them with little taste for a repetition of their obstructionist program. The Democratic party in Congress, however, though rebuked is not silenced, and will aim to accomplish by covert and indirect means, what it has failed to accomplish by open force. It is noticeable that the first subject considered by the first Senatorial caucus held on Tuesday, was the distribution of Senatorial patronage.

The publication of the annual message of the President as well as the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury was this year attended by a piece of very doubtful journalistic enterprise. Both these documents were taken by persons unknown several days prior to their transmission to Congress, and published in some of the newspapers of New York, Chicago and Cincinnati; the latter on Saturday, and the former on Sunday morning. Energetic efforts have been made to discover the thief or thieves, but so far without any success. It is stated that Sec. SHERMAN has offered a liberal reward from his own pocket for their discovery.

We give up a great deal of our space this week, to these documents, yet we trust that their importance will render unnecessary any apology for this trespass upon our usual variety. The principal topics treated by the President are the financial operations of the fiscal year, the reform of the Civil Service, the suppression of polygamy, the Fishery question and Fortune Bay matter, and our foreign relations otherwise, and the Indian policy of Secretary Schurz. Of the character of some of the most important of his recommendations we have spoken elsewhere.

The nomination of Sec. MCCRARY to be Judge of the United States Circuit Court, vice Judge DILLON, resigned, was sent to the Senate yesterday. No doubts are entertained about his confirmation. The nomination of ex Sen. RAMSAY, of Minnesota, to succeed Sec. MCCRARY, will be sent to the Senate immediately after the nomination of Mr. MCCRARY for the Judgeship is disposed of. Mr. RAMSAY'S long residence on the frontier has made him intimately acquainted with army operations, and his experience as Governor of Minnesota during the rebellion will also aid in fitting him for his new position.

The Democrats in Maine who attempted to defraud their opponents of the fruits of their victory by withholding the returns till the expiration of the 20 days allowed by law for their correction, have taken wiser counsels. The Governor and Council were in session on Tuesday, when they opened and exhibited the returns of the county officers, and agreed to exhibit the returns for Senators and Representatives. Thus virtually ends the attempt to defraud the Republican officers elect, and relegates the State to the Republicans.

New Orleans dispatches say the Louisiana canvass closed on Friday night with mass meetings held by both parties in that City. It is believed that the Republicans will poll a largely increased vote, though their carrying the State is hardly possible. Gen. WOODFORD and Gen. TAYLOR BEATTIE the Republican candidate for Governor were heard attentively by large audiences. If all the machinery of fraud could have been abolished it is unquestionable that the Republicans would have carried the State.

GORTSCHAKOFF.

The retirement of GORTSCHAKOFF from the position which he has so long occupied in Russia is an event of more than momentary importance. For more than two decades he has had the direction of the diplomatic affairs of that country, and been the power behind the throne, directing what should and what should not be. Before he became Chancellor he had shown his astuteness in the various positions he had been called to fill in foreign courts, and had won the entire confidence of the Czar by his management of difficult matters.

His day, however, has passed by. The Berlin Congress was where his sun began to sink below the political horizon. He went thither an old man, borne down with physical ailments, and it was not much wonder that his usual shrewdness failed him. The crafty BEACONSFIELD was too much for him, and he returned to Russia with his *prestige* gone. No longer able to manage the foreign policy of his country, he has felt that his days of usefulness were over, and now he has expressed his desire to lay down the baton of power, and be relieved of the great burden of responsibilities which he has borne so long.

Considering his past greatness, and what he has done for Russia, it seems hard that he could not have retired from his position without resting under a cloud. His grasp upon power was retained too long, and now he will be compelled to retire from public life, feeling that he could no longer retain his place, and that another possesses the confidence of his sovereign which has been his so long.

SOME Erie had a little lamb,
Who bought it when 'twas high,
And every time that Erie rose,
The lamb was sure to buy.

It wandered down to thirty-two,
Which was against the rule,
And so his broker sold him out,
And plucked him for a fool.

"What makes the lamb love Erie so?"
The eager people cry;
"The Broker loves (?) the lamb, you know,"
The Spotter did reply.

THE *Catholic Family Almanac* for 1880 says that there are 7,000,000 Roman Catholics in the United States. In 1840 there was but 1,500,000. The rapid increase has been mainly caused by emigration from Ireland, Germany, France and Italy—the four sources from which the United States has drawn most largely from its population within the periods named.

OPENING OF CONGRESS.

Monday began the regular session of the Forty-sixth of Congress. Whether it commences another series of disgraceful attempts upon the part of the Southern Brigadiers and their Northern Confederates to make infamous laws and browbeat the Executive into allowing their passage, or whether legislation necessary and honorable will proceed quietly and wisely remains to be seen. It is probable, however, that in view of the result of the late elections in several of the Northern States, and the fact that another Fall will bring about a Presidential contest that the Democrats will not so viciously show the cloven foot as they did last year.

One reason for this is the change in the attitude of many of the leading Southern politicians. The large Republican gains in Ohio, New York, and Maine showed to them most conclusively the temper and sentiment of the North, and the utter impossibility of carrying openly their States rights principles. They will not be likely to attempt any farther steps in that direction through Congressional legislation. Their endeavor to seize the National Government proved an entire failure, and they are now casting about for some other way to obtain a share of the loaves and fishes, but the talk of supporting Gen. GRANT for the next President will probably amount to nothing.

Many important questions come up for settlement by Congress this session. Among them is that of the transfer of the conduct of Indian affairs from the Interior to the War Department. The feeling of the majority of people seems to be in favor of this change. Matters cannot be made much worse. They may be largely bettered. It is to be hoped that the wisest consideration may be given this matter, as well as to others of vital interest to the whole country.

MORMONISM.

The President in his message speaks strongly upon the necessity of carring out the law in regard to polygamy in Utah Territory. This law, he says, has been declared within the legislative action of Congress, and therefore binding upon all who live within the territorial limits. So long as it remains a dead letter up the statute books as it has the last 17 years, Utah, although it has reached the status required for admission as a State, ought not to be brought into the Union.

These words will doubtless strike a responsive chord in the breasts of a majority of the people. The "peculiar institution" has been declared subversive to the highest progress and best interests of the nation, and legislation demanded against it. Nothing has, however, been one to check its growth, or end its existence, even though the law was passed declaring polygamy a crime. Secretary EVARTS struck it the severest blow when he sent out his circular to foreign governments, that Mormons were outlaws, and that those who became converts to their missionaries and came to Utah, did so at the risk of being at some time treated as criminals

It was not at first supposed that this communication would produce any effect for good, and countless jokes were hurled at Mr. EVARTS from all sides. The sequal shows, however, that he judged wisely. Mormon emigration has received a decided check. The attention of the English Government was called to the fact that there was a law upon their statute books against plural marriages, and it felt compelled on that ground to interfere with the proselyting, and it was brought to an end in that country and also in France. In place of bringing hundreds of converts to the United States every few months, the missionaries have been obliged to give up their preaching there, and hereafter their attention will have to be turned to more distant and less civilized lands.

There is little doubt but that Mormonism is approaching its death agony. What the death of BRIGHAM YOUNG did not do—what the expose of the terrible facts in regard to the Mountain Meadow massacre could not accomplish—what all the Gentile agitation in the Territory itself has failed to bring about, will come to pass by other means. If proselyting abroad ceases, the latter day Saints cannot add to their numbers materially, for our own people have no love for polygamy. The necessity of becoming a State with a State's privileges will bring the matter to a climax, if nothing else does. Then, if not before, must this shame be wiped away forever. The change will come quietly, for though bravado may be indulged in now, the leaders of Mormonism are too intelligent not to understand and appreciate the certainty that resistance to the United States Government, backed by the strong sentiment of its millions of people, would be utterly in vain.

ABOUT ANDERSONVILLE.

The publisher had hoped, and indeed had promised, to have the story of Andersonville ready for delivery by the 10th inst. But we regret to say that unforseen and unavoidable delays in the preparation of the engravings have rendered it impossible to get the book ready before the 20th of the present month. No one can regret this half so much as does the publisher, and he trusts that the kindly generosity of the agents and subscribers will come to his aid in making the vexations delay as endurable as possible. The work will be crowded along with all possible despatch.

THE Indianapolis *Sentinel* admits that neither Indiana nor New York is absolutely certain to go Democratic next year, and that both are necessary for Democratic success. To carry Indiana, it says, will require the nomination of Mr. HENDRICKS for President; for Vice-President some New Yorker must be named who can unite the distracted Democracy of this State. "If this can be done, New York can be carried; if it be not done, all will be lost."

JUST notice how soon the present, pleasant, Indian Summer-like feeling of good fellowship, no sectionalism, and acceptance of the inevitable, which has prevailed in the South since the elections, will change to the stern Winter of hatred, cruelty and defiance to the sentiment of the North, after the meeting of Congress, and the Democratic politicians get together to stiffen up each other's backbones.

WE beg leave to call the attention of the Southern Brigadiers to the fact that we have made a solid North without killing a single Democrat.

THE MESSAGE.

The President's message, contains few new or startling ideas being much after the fashion of those documents generally. It was precipitated upon the public in a rather questionable manner before it had been presented to Congress, so that by this time it has been read and digested by all who will take the trouble to give it a perusal.

The two most important questions taken up and discussed at length are those relating to the finances and the civil service reform. The President refers in a congratulatory tone to the marked improvement in the business prospects of the country since the resumption of specie payments. Referring to the policy of the country as being uniformly and steadily against the creation of a National debt, but if made by a war necessity to be paid as soon as possible, he recommends the continuance of the refunding operation until the present debt is extinguished. As was to be expected he advises the suspension of the coinage of the silver dollar on its present basis, since the end will be the driving out of the gold now in circulation. As was *not* to be expected just at this time, he expressed a strong opinion that the greenbacks brought into existence as a war measure should now be retired from the currency. Whatever may be individual thought upon this subject, it is an inopportune time to agitate it. Its introduction would simply unsettle financial matters, just now running smoothly and quietly, cause an infinite amount of unwholesome agitation, divide up the Republican party, and become a most troublesome element in the discussion of the topics of the day.

Though confessing that the civil service reform has made but little progress, he still maintains its absolute necessity, and says that the views he has heretofore expressed remain unchanged. While superior officers must be selected in accordance with the policy approved by the people through the National election, who shall be the exponents of the policy, the same rule does not apply to those who fill the subordinate positions in the Civil Service. He would remove these without the bounds of partisan politics, and consider only the question of the most efficient discharge of duty for the public interest This theory is a good one. It is based upon a high ideal of government, and could it be carried out, would result in permanent good. But a radical change has got to take place in politics before it becomes possible. As things are now neither party would consent to the carrying out of the arrangements. Those who have labored for the successful candidate must be rewarded. If, beginning at the very foundation and letting the principle govern in every department, from the lowest to the highest, men and their fitness were considered, and not the number of votes they could command, then there would be such a reform as can now only be dreamed of. That there is need of purification in civil service matters does not admit of doubt, and the agitation of the subject may bring about some change for the better. Competitive examinations are recommended, and are, doubtless, good if not made a mere farce, as has been the case by the absurdity of the questions asked the candidates.

The position of the President upon the Mormon question the BLADE referred to yesterday. It is emphatic and pronounced, and will meet with general approval.

He refers to the elections this year as an evidence of the interest all citizens take in the establishment of a perfect freedom of the elective franchise, and urges upon people, whatever their party, to use every effort to protect the right of suffrage.

The agitation of the removal of Indian affairs from the Interior to the War Department he deprecates as tending to undo what has been accomplished for the good of the red men, and to unsettle the savages themselves.

Our foreign relations he reports as in the highest degree satisfactory. There are no wars or rumors of wars, but trade has increased with different countries showing the amicable feeling existing and the prospect of its permanence.

Taken altogether, the message is comprehensive and one of the most able papers President HAYES has yet given to the Nation. The line of policy which he has marked out will correspond generally with the ideas of the Republican party, and will conduce to the prosperity of the Nation.

OUR NEW CLUBBING LISTS.

Almost everyone who takes the BLADE wishes to take some other good weekly or monthly publication with it. To meet this demand, we have carefully revised our clubbing list on the second page, and now offer all the leading publications in connection with the BLADE, at very greatly reduced prices. For example we now offer the BLADE and any one of Harper's four dollar publications at $4 60 for the two, both postage prepaid; the BLADE and the *Rural New Yorker*, (price $2.50) for $3.25; the BLADE and the *Western Rural or Prairie Farmer*, (price $2 00 each,) for $2 75; the BLADE and *American Agriculturist*, (price $1.50) for $2.50, all postage prepaid. We believe these prices cannot be duplicated elsewhere, and trust that our readers will consult our list before selecting their reading for 1880.

THE New York *Times* has discovered a new field of profitable labor for women. It is that of household decoration. Few ladies thoroughly comprehend the art of making their homes look all that they should with the means at their command Those who have this happy talent should be employed by those who have it not, and be encouraged to develop their genius to its highest possibilities. The *Times* says heretically:

Cookery is an art evidently beyond the reach of woman; it demands too much hard brain work and too robust an imagination. There never was a great woman cook. But with household decoration the elements are very different.

AS we predicted Gen. GRANT'S friends disclaim any desire to have him foisted upon the Nation in any such sinecure as Captain General. The country does not want any such monarchial nonsense as giving men life-long positions where there is nothing to do but draw and spend the salary. If Gen. GRANT is to receive an additional reward for past services the process should not stop with him, but extend downward until every man whose musket helped him gain his victories is generously provided for.

SHERMAN'S REPORT.

The annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury the main features of which are given elsewhere, is a document of more than ordinary interest. Secretary SHERMAN stands before a finished task whose successful achievement has given him rank with the oldest financiers of the country. For nearly three years he has endured abuse, misrepresentations and calumny in his unwavering defense of a policy which he believed to be not only financially correct, but morally right. Under these circumstances, the public is not only interested in the official statement of how a successful and permanent resumption has been accomplished, but is prepared to give a most respectful hearing to suggestions regarding our future financial policy. It may be added that there is more than a possibility that the people will need the Secretary of the Treasury in a still higher capacity at the expiration of the present Presidential term, and that the successful ticket in 1880 will be headed by the name of JOHN SHERMAN.

For the actual figures relating to the financial operations of the past year we must refer the reader to the Secretary's report. The revenue for the ensuing fiscal year he estimates at two hundred and eighty-eight millions, and the expenditures, including the amount necessary for the sinking fund, at two hundred and seventy-eight millions, leaving a surplus of ten millions, which as the Secretary suggests, will probably be consumed by additional appropriations. Referring to the fact that no payments have recently been made on account of the sinking fund, owing to the general depression of business throughout the country, he urges that advantage be taken of the increased revenues consequent on a revival of business to meet the requirements of this fund. He suggests that each House create a permanent Appropriation Committee which shall have power to sit during recess, with power to examine all the expenditures of the Government.

After reviewing briefly the history of resumption, the Secretary recommends that a redemption fund be specifically defined and set apart for the redemption of United States notes, and suggests that the maximum of such notes be reduced to $300,000,000, and their legal tender quality removed. By repealing the legal tender clause of these notes, but leaving them redeemable in coin on demand, the questionable exercise of power would cease, while at the same their greater convenience would keep them in circulation. The Secretary again calls the attention of Congress to the importance of further limiting the coinage of the silver dollar. He believes that it is only possible at the present standard, to retain a large amount of silver at par with gold by retaining the former in the vaults of the Treasury. Until the coinage notes of the two metals can be re-adjusted by treaties with other Nations, he believes it highly important to limit the issue of silver dollars to such sums as can readily and surely be maintained at par with gold.

The Secretary treats further of the sugar duties, the possible necessity of reimposing a duty on tea and coffee, of contemplated improvements in the collection of duties on passengers' baggage, of the internal revenue, and the state of American shipping, and gives some instructive figures regarding our exports and imports. Many of the latter figures have already been presented to our readers, and for this reason, as well as for a lack of space, we have somewhat curtailed the report.

ANOTHER HOLIDAY BOOK.

We have just received an invoice of a choice and elegant edition of JOHN BUNYAN'S writings, including Bunyan's Life, written by himself, the "Pilgrim's Progress," and the Life and Death of Mr. BADMAN, a hitherto unpublished allegory. This edition is a large octavo size, contains 685 pages of clear, white paper printed with large type, and is illustrated by numerous full-page steel and wood engravings, all of the finest workmanship, the whole elegantly bound in cloth and gilt. The regular price of this work, which is not offered at all in our catalogue, is $5.00, but we will send a copy post-paid to any address for $3.00, or the book and the BLADE one year for $4 50.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The BLADE takes pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of the following new books through the house of T. J. Brown, Eager & Co., Toledo:

CASTLE FOAM, or the Heir of Meerschaum a Russian story, by H. W. Franck; 371 pages; price, $1.50. Lee & Shepard, Boston.

THE VAGABONDS, by J. T. Trowbridge, with illustrations by F. O. C. Darley; full gilt edges, tinted paper; price, $1.50. Lee & Shepard, Boston.

MAGELLAN, or the First Voyage Round the World, by George M. Towle; 281 pages; price, $1.00. Lee & Shepard, Boston.

THE BIBLE FOR LEARNERS, by Drs. H. Cort and I. Hoolvas, vol. III; 760 pages; price, $2.50. Roberts Brothers, Boston.

BLANID, by Robert D. Joyce, author of "Deidre," 348 pages; price, ——. Roberts Brothers, Boston.

A TREATISE ON THE HORSE AND HIS DISEASE, by J. Kendall, M. D.; 89 pages; price, 50 cents. Published by the author, Enosburgh Falls, Vermont.

Contested Seats in Congress.

The following list shows the contested election cases which the House will have to consider, and as political motives are behind many of them, a lively debate is sure to attend some of them:

E. M. Boynton vs. George E. Loring, Sixth District of Massachusetts.

A. G. Curtin vs. Seth M. Yocum, Twentieth District of Pennsylvania.

Jesse J. Yeates vs. Joseph J. Martin, First District of North Carolina.

James E. O'Hara vs. William H. Kitchin, Second District of North Carolina.

E. W. M. Mackey vs. M. P. O'Connor, Second District of South Carolina.

Jere Haralson vs. Charles M. Shelley, Fourth District of Alabama.

Robert O. Hebert vs. J. H. Acklen, Third District of Louisiana.

W. B. Merchant vs. J. H. Acklen, Third District of Louisiana.

James W. Brady vs. William F. Simmons, Second District of Arkansas.

Ignatius Donnelly vs. W. D. Washburn, Third District of Minnesota.

S. W. McDowell vs. John Whiteaker, of Oregon.

Gov. Cornell's Patronage.

New York Herald.

In discussing the bearing of the New York election on the vote of the State for President, a consideration has been omitted which is so important that it may prove decisive when the two parties are so evenly balanced. We refer to the official patronage of the Government, which has become large by recent amendments of the State Constitution. In the late election this patronage was used by Gov. Robinson against the Republican party; next year it will be wielded by Gov. Cornell in favor of that party.

OUR FINANCES

Annual Report of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Statistics, Estimates and Recommendations.

ORDINARY REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 1, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following annual report:

The ordinary revenues from all sources for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1879, were:

From customs	$137,250,042 70
From internal revenue	113,561,610 58
From sales of public lands	924,781 06
From tax on circulation and deposits of national banks	6,747,500 32
From repayment of interest by Pacific Railway Companies	2,707,231 03
From customs fees, fines, penalties, etc	1,101,871 65
From fees, consular letters patent and lands	2,133,051 79
From proceeds of sales of Government property	181,128 81
From premium on sales of coin	8,104 88
From premium on loans	1,496,943 25
From profits on coinage, etc	2,221,938 67
From revenues of the District of Columbia	1,141,461 16
From miscellaneous sources	3,046,554 05
Total ordinary receipts	$ 416,324,154 49

ORDINARY EXPENDITURES.

For civil expenses	$ 16,433,907 17
For foreign intercourse	1,353,566 13
For Indians	5,246,106 08
For pensions (including $5,373,000 arrears of pension)	35,121,482 39
For the military establishment including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	43,425,663 73
For the naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy yards	15,125,126 84
For miscellaneous expenditures, including public buildings, lighthouses, and collecting the revenue	38,870,235 78
For expenditures on account of the District of Columbia	3,597,376 41
For interest on the public debt	105,327,949 03
For payment of Halifax award	5,000 00
Total ordinary expenses	$ 266,947,883 53
—leaving a surplus revenue of	6,879,300 98
which was applied as follows:	
To the redemption of United States notes, etc	$ 31,613 17
To the redemption of fractional currency	705,182 99
To the redemption of 6 per cent. bonds for the sinking fund	18,500 00
For increase of cash balance in the Treasury	6,124,024 77
Total	$ 6,879,300 93

The amount due the sinking fund for the year was $36,955,694 63, leaving a deficiency on this account of $30,076,393.70. Compared with the previous fiscal year, the receipts for 1879 have increased $16,711,159.70, in the following items:

In customs revenue	$7,079,357 70
In internal revenue	2,479,085 33
In premium on loans	1,496,943 25
In repayment of interest by Pacific Railroad Companies	1,340,246 67
In profits on coinage	1,221,176 31
In miscellaneous items	2,593,449 10

There was a decrease of $647,853.94, as follows:

In sales of public lands	$154,962 31
In premium on sales of coin	506,997 92
In semi-annual tax on banks	115,502 64
In proceeds of sales of Government property	68,311 07

—making a net increase on the receipts from all sources for the year of $47,063,305.76.

The expenditures show an increase over the previous year of $52,225,731.26, as follows:

In the War Department	$ 8,271,512 28
In the Interior Department	8,561,292 11
Indians	570,888 80
Pensions	7,934,463 31
In the interest on the public debt	2,827,074 25
In the civil and miscellaneous	12,563,861 92

There was a decrease of $2,240,174.53 in the Navy Department, making a net increase in the expenditures of $29,985,556.73.

FISCAL YEAR, 1880.

For the present fiscal year the revenue, actual and estimated, will be as follows:

RECEIPTS.

	For the quarter ending Sept. 30, 79, actual	For the remaining three-quarters of the year, estimated
For customs	$ 44,083,497 98	$107,916,502 07
From internal revenue	29,409,601 81	86,590,398 19
From sales of public lands	117,383 61	882,616 35
From tax on circulation and deposits of National banks	2,360,563 60	3,389,436 40
From repayment of interest by Pacific Railway companies	252,427 46	1,247,572 54
From custom fees, fines, penalties, etc.	239,579 36	863,420 64
From fees, consular letters, patents, and lands	500,864 29	1,633,135 71
From proceeds of sales of Government property	55,881 18	144,118 82
From profits on coinage	489,486 09	2,030,513 91
From revenues of the District of Columbia	238,864 09	1,461,135 91
From miscellaneous sources	1,109,334 17	1,940,665 83
Total	$ 79,848,579 40	$208,156,420 54

The expenditures for the same period, actual and estimated, be:

EXPENDITURES.

	For the quarter ending Sept. 30, 79, actual	For the remaining three quarters of the year, estimated
For civil and miscellaneous expenses, including public buildings, light houses, and collecting the revenue	$ 12,165,764 34	$ 32,256,299 66
For Indians	2,048,748 02	3,451,251 98
For pensions, regular	10,892,742 06	26 480,257 94
For arrears of pensions	16,374,249 60	3,852,750 40
For military establishments, including fortifications, river and harbor improvements, and arsenals	12,104,897 38	31,017,672 62
For naval establishments, including vessels and machinery, and improvements at navy yards	4,197,589 59	11,333,410 41
For expenditures on account of the District of Columbia	1,163,728 60	2,414,237 35
For interest on the public debt	82,735,685 46	61,140,724 54
Total ordinary expenditures	$ 91,683,385 10	$172,316,614 90

Total receipts, actual and estimated	($288,000,000
Total expenditures, actual and estimated	264,000,000
Leaving a remainder of	$ 24,000,000

After applying the balance of the special deposit of United States notes held in the Treasury for the redemption of fractional currency, amounting to $8,375,904, to the payment of arrears of pensions, as directed in section 3 of the act approved June 21, 1879, the increased revenue derived during the months of August, September and October of the present year was fully absorbed by current expenses and the payment of $16,374,249.60 arrears of pensions accruing under the act approved January 25, 1879. Notwithstanding these unusual demands, the department has been able to purchase and apply to the sinking fund out of the surplus revenues for the month of October $1,059,000 6 per centum bonds of 1881, and $676,000 5 per centum bonds, act of March 3, 1864, the latter of which is the excess of redemption of these bonds over issues of 4 per cents under the refunding acts, and, unless expected appropriations available for expenditure within this year be made by Congress, the surplus revenues, in addition to paying off the balance of arrears of pensions, will probably enable the Department to apply to the sinking fund account during the year the sum of $24,000,000.

FISCAL YEAR 1881.

The revenues of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1881, estimating upon existing laws, will be:

From customs	$132,000,000
From internal revenue	116,000,000
From sales of public lands	1,000,000
From tax on circulation and deposits of national banks	6,750,000
From repayment of interest by Pacific Railway Companies	1,503,000
From customs fees, fines, penalties, etc.	1,100,000
From fees, consular letters patent, and lands	2,200,000
From proceeds of sales of government property	303,000
From profits on coinage, etc	2,500,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,750,000
Total ordinary receipts	$288,000,000

The estimate of expenditures for the same period, received from the several executive departments, are as follows:

Legislative	$ 2,934,889 66
Executive	13,503,031 91
Judicial	490,500 00
Foreign intercourse	1,185,135 00
Military establishment	29,319,791 78
Naval establishment	14,500 147 95
Indian affairs	4,992 814 86
Pensions	32,401 0 0 00
Public works, Treasury Department	3,121,150 00
War Department	7,557 1 8 42
Navy Department	3,750,001 00
Interior Department	508,025 82
Department of Agriculture	6,650 00
Postal service	2,711 900 00
Miscellaneous	17,801,520 75
Permanent annual appropriations, interest on the public debt	88,877,410 00
Sinking fund	39,888,225 72
Refunding customs, internal revenue, lands, etc	5,778,500 00
Collecting revenue from customs	5,500,000 00
Miscellaneous	1,765,066 00
Total estimated expenditures, including sinking fund	$278 097 364 33

—or an estimated surplus of $9,902,635.61. Excluding the sinking fund, the estimated expenditures will be $238,260,138.67, showing a surplus of $49,730,861 33.

The estimates for the revenue for the next fiscal year are based upon the assumption that the increased receipts during the past few months are abnormal, and mainly due to the filling up of wants created by recent depression rather than by the actual increase of trade. These wants being supplied, the revenues for next year probably will not be increased beyond the amount estimated. The estimated expenditures for the same period are based upon the requirements of existing law and the necessary appropriations for public works in course of construction. The estimated surplus of $9,902,635.61 will probably be exhausted by additional appropriations. Should Congress increase the appropriations beyond this limit, or repeal or reduce existing taxes, other sources of revenue must be provided. Should this course be decided upon,—which, however, the Secretary does not recommend,—he would suggest, as a means of meeting the deficiency, the restoration of a moderate duty on tea and coffee and the levying of an internal tax on manufacturers of opium, as hereinafter more fully stated.

THE SINKING FUND.

The Secretary calls the attention of Congress in this connection to the acts of Feb. 25, 1862, and July 14, 1870, requiring the purchase or payment of 1 per cent. of the entire debt of the United States within each fiscal year after the 1st day of July, 1862, to be set apart as a sinking fund, and the interest in like manner to be applied to the purchase or payment of the public debt, as the Secretary of the Treasury may from time to time direct. These acts are regarded as imposing upon the Secretary the duty of providing for the sinking fund out of the surplus revenues of the Government. It has been impossible to comply with these requirements during the past few years, owing to the loss of revenue subsequent upon the general depression of business throughout the country; but as the prospects for increased revenues enlarge with the renewed activity in all branches of industry, it seems proper at this time to urge the importance of meeting the obligations credited by these acts. It is estimated that $38,828,225.72 will be required for this purpose during the next year. Appreciating the necessity for united action in this direction, this department will heartily co-operate with Congress in the most rigid economy in the public expenditures under its charge, and to that end the Secretary invites careful consideration of the estimates of expenditures submitted by the several executive departments. Any appropriations beyond those actually demanded by the necessities of the government will only impair the ability of the Secretary to carry these laws into effect. With a view to promote economy, the Secretary ventures to suggest for the consideration of the respective houses a permanent organization or an appropriation committee for each house, who shall have leave to sit during the recess, with power to send for persons and papers, and to examine all expenditures of the government; that rules be adopted by the respective houses limiting appropriations to items of appropriation, and excluding legislative provisions; that all appropriations, except for the interest of the public debt, be limited to a period not exceeding two years, and that their expenditure be confined to the period of time for which they are appropriated, and that all permanent and indefinite appropriations made more than four years ago, except that for the public debt, be repealed.

RESUMPTION OF SPECIE PAYMENTS.

At the date of my last annual report, December 28, 1878, the preparation for the resumption of specie payments provided for by the act approved January 14, 1875, had been substantially completed. On the 1st day of January, 1879,—the day fixed for the resumption of specie payments,—the reserve of coin over and above all matured liabilities was $135,580,000. Previous to that time, in view of resumption, United States notes and coin were freely received and paid in private business as equivalents. Actual resumption commenced at the time fixed by law, without any material demand for coin and without disturbance to public or private business. No disunction has been made since that time between coin and United States notes in the collection of dues or in payment of the principal or interest of the public debt. The great body of coin indebtedness has been paid in United States notes at the request of creditors. The total amount of United States notes presented for redemption from January 1 to November 1, 1879, was $135,280,278. But little coin has been demanded on the coin liabilities of the Government during the same period, though the amount accruing exceeded $64,000,000. Meantime coin was freely paid into the treasury, and gold bullion was deposited in the assay office, and paid for in United States notes. The aggregate gold and silver coin and bullion in the Treasury increased during that period from $167,658,754.19 to $225,159,558.72, and the net balance available for resumption increased from $133,508,804.50 to $152,737,155.48. In accordance with the position taken in the last annual report, United States notes have been received, since Jan. 1, last, in payment of duties on imports. To meet the local demand for coin, in places other than New York City, persons applying have been paid silver coin for United States notes, the coin being delivered to them on established express lines, free of expense, and for some time gold and silver coin has been freely paid out of the sub-treasuries upon current obligations of the Government. There has been, however, little demand for coin, and United States notes and the circulating notes of national banks have been received and paid out out at par with coin in all business transactions, public and private, in all parts of the country. The specie standard thus happily secured has given an impetus to all kinds of business. Many industries, greatly depressed since the panic of 1873, have revived, while increased activity has been shown in all branches of production, trade and commerce. Every preparation for a resumption was accompanied with increased business and confidence, and its consummation has been followed by a revival of protective industry unexampled in our previous history. It is made the duty of this Department to maintain resumption, and for this purpose, in addition to the use of surplus revenue and the fund for resumption purposes, the Secretary is authorized to issue, sell, and dispose of not less than par in coin, either 4, 4½, or 5 per cent. bonds of the description set out in the refunding act approved July 14, 1870. This act is based on the idea that all the necessary expenditures of the Government appropriated for by Congress will be met by the current revenues, leaving the surplus revenues and the reserve fund available for resumption. It is also provided by that act that the amount of United States notes to be redeemable on demand in coin shall be gradually reduced to the sum of of $300,000,000. The act approved May 31, 1878, increases the maximum of United States notes upon which resumption is to be maintained to the sum of $346,681,016, the amount outstanding at the date of the passage of the act. It also provides that he be authorized to

And when any of said notes may be redeemed or be received into the Treasury under any law from any source whatever, and shall belong to the United States, they shall not be retired, canceled,

time the refunding transactions were brought in the last annual report, there had been issued of 4 per cent. consols for refunding purposes $144,770,901, and there remained at the time bonds redeemable, as follows:

Authorizing act, rate of interest	
amount, March 3, 1863, 6 per cent	$71,424,880
June 14, 1858, 5 per cent	25,000
March 3, 1864 (10 40's), 5 per cent	194,568,300
Total	$356,251,180

In that report the attention of Congress was called to the three months public notice required by law to be given to holders of bonds called for redemption, with the recommendation that the law be so modified that the notice be at the discretion of the Secretary, not less than 10 days nor more than three months. As no action was taken upon this recommendation on Jan. 1, 1879, the four per cent. loan was offered to the public without changing the period of the notice, and in view of the practical effect of resumption, the Secretary offered to receive United States notes in payment for the bonds sold. The bonds were rapidly sold in this country, and the resulting redemptions of 5-20s, many of which were held in Europe, rendered desirable the sale of the bonds in London sufficient to prevent the shipment of gold from this country. To obtain this object a contract was made, on the 23d day of January, 1879, with certain banks and bankers, under which they agreed to subscribe at once for $15,000,000 of 4 per cent. bonds, with the option of taking $15,000,000 more by monthly subscriptions of $5,000,000 during April, May and June. On the part of the Government the bonds were delivered free of charge in London, at which place an agency was to be maintained during the continuance of the contract. Under this contract $15,000,000 of bonds were taken. In the meantime, under authority of the act of Jan. 25, 1879, the secretary offered to exchange 4 per cent. bonds for uncalled 5-20's. The amount of 5-20's so exchanged was $800,000. On March 4 notice was given that when the remaining 5-20's should be covered by subscriptions the sale of 4 per cents for refunding the 10-40 bonds would probably be made upon less favorable terms to the purchasers, owing partly to fears that the heavy payments falling due in April and May would create a distrubance in the money market. There was a falling off in the sales of bonds during the month of March. Measures were successfully taken by the Department to secure the adjustment of the accounts of the purchase of the bonds without embarrassment to the business interests of the country. On the morning of April 4, the amount of outstanding 5-20s not covered by subscriptions to the 4 per cents was $50,565,700. Before the close of business on that day subscriptions were received sufficient to refund the remaining 5-20s, and in accordance with previous notice, the offer of Jan. 1, was rescinded. Additional subscriptions were received and rejected amounting to $60,019,850. The refunding of the 5-20s having been accomplished, and no other 6 per cent bonds being redeemable on April 16, $130,000,000 of the 4 per cent. bonds were offered at a premium of of ½ of 1 per cent. the proceeds to be applied to the redemption of the 5 per cent. bonds issued under the act of March 3, 1865, known as 10 40s, reserving the residue, $44,560,300 necessary for the redemption of the entire loan for the convenience of the funding certificates offered at the same time. The 4 per cent. bonds were also offered in exchange for any outstanding uncalled 10 40 bonds. On the following day subscriptions amounting to $149,359,650 were received and accepted, and $34,705,000 received, and the offers of the 4 per cent. bonds were withdrawn. One subscription for $10,000,000 of the certificates was also received and declined, the evident purpose of the law authorizing the issue of these certificates being to cause, as far as practicable, a distribution of the public debt among the people.

Exchanges were also made in the amount of $2,080,500. On April 21 a call was made for the remainder of the 10 40 bonds, and on the 23d a call was made for $2,000,000 loan of 1868, thus completing the redemption of all outstanding redeemable bonds bearing interest at 5 per cent.

On March 12, 1879, independent Treasury officers were authorized to exchange the $10 certificates, authorized by the act of Feb. 26, 1879, at par for lawful money, and the Treasurer of the United States was authorized to issue them upon the certificate of any National Bank designated for that purpose. To facilitate and distribute the sale of these certificates National Banks and public officers were invited to become depositaries for this purpose, as authorized and provided by sections 3,639 and 5,153, Revised Statutes of the United States. Each certificate was prepared in the denomination of $10, and bore interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum from April 1, 1879, for which time the quarterly interest began on the 4 per cent. bonds into which the certificates were convertible in sums of $50 or its multiples. Any person subscribing could, at his option, have the certificates registered in his name in the books of the Department immediately on the advance by the department of the price of the 4 per cent. bonds to ½ of 1 per cent. above par. The demand for these certificates greatly increased. Offers for them at a premium corresponding to the premium on the bonds into which they were convertible were received, but the act under which they were issued not only authorized but required them to be issued in exchange for lawful money, thus apparently preventing the sale of them at a premium, and the offers were therefore declined. To bring them within the reach of small investors, on and after April 1, their sale was restricted to independent Treasury officers and public officers bonded for that purpose, and to sums not exceeding $100. At one time accessions of the intent of the law and instructions, however, with a view of immediate conversion of the certificates into bonds, soon became evident, and on April 20, the officers selling the certificates were directed to refuse them when such evasion was manifest. At the same time commissions on the sales in large amounts were greatly reduced, and the conversion of the certificates into bonds was postponed until July 1, 1879. The entire amount was, however, disposed of as rapidly as the certificates could be prepared, and before the close of the fiscal year. In response to the invitation to become depositaries for the sale of these certificates, 500 public officers and 76 national banks were designated for the purpose, and engaged in the sales. The certificates were sold as follows:

By public officers designated as depositaries	$8,569,200
By national banks	1,197,620
By independent treasury officers	10,245,880
In all	$20,012,750

—of which amount there had been converted into four per cent. bonds to the close of business, October 31, 1879, $07,260,350, leaving outstanding $2,580,469. Thus, since November 20, 1878, to which date the transactions were brought in the last annual report, there have been refunded $370,815,750 six per cent., and $107,000,250 five per cent. bonds of the United States into bonds bearing four per cent., making an annual saving of interest hereafter of $5,355,877.50.

The following table shows the transactions in refunding since March 1, 1877, and the annual saving of interest therefrom:

Title of Loan.	Rate per ct.	Amount refunded.	Annual interest charge.
Loan of 1858	5	$ 20,000 00	$ 9,700,312 50
10-40s, 1864	5	193,300,250	
10-40s of 1864	5	200,433,000	33,071,742 00
Consols of 1865	6	202,665,100	
Consols of 1867	6	310,022,750	
Consols of 1868	6	37,473,800	
Total		$843,345,950	$18,779,254 50

In place of the above bonds there have been issued bonds bearing interest as follows:

Title of Loan.	Rate per ct.	Amount refunded.	Amount in terest charge.
Funded loan of '91	4½	$133,000,000	$ 6,075,000
Funded loan of 1907, including refunding certificates	4	710,345,959	28,413,838
Total		$843,345,959	$34,488,838

—making a saving in the annual interest since March 1, 1877, of $14,240,416.50. These transactions have been accomplished without the loss of a dollar, and without appreciably disturbing the current business of the country. In a few days copies of the contracts, circulars, important correspondence, and accounts pertaining thereto, and also to resumption, will be laid before Congress.

The entire transactions in refunding since 1870 have been as follows:

Title of Loan.	Rate per ct.	Amount funded.	Annual interest charge.
Loan of 1858	5 $	14,217,000	$ 10,401,262 50
10-40s, 1864	5	193,880,250	
5-20s of 1862	6	461,148,700	
5-20s of March, 1864	6	1,827,100	
5-20s of June, 1864	6	59,185,400	
5-20s of 1865	6	160,141,500	71,234,312 00
Con ls of 1865	6	211,357,050	
Con ls of 1867	6	318,451,850	
Con ls of 1868	6	37,677,000	
Total		$ 1,805,745,900	$ 1,639 681 50

In place of the above bonds there has been issued bonds bearing interest as follows:

Title of Loan.	Rate per ct.	Amount refunded.	Annual interest charged.
Funded loan of 1881	5	$500,000,000	25,000,000
Funded loan of 1891	4½	185,000,000	8,325,000
Funded loan of 1907, including refunding certificates	4	710,345,950	28,413,838
Total		1,395,345,950	61,738 838

—making an annual saving hereafter in the interest charge on account of refunding operations of $19,900,846.56.

The following described bonds will mature in 1880 and 1881:

Account.	Rate of int.	Date of maturity.	Amount.
Feb. 8, 1861	6	Dec. 31, 1880	$ 18,415,000
July 17 and Aug. 5, 1861	6	June 30, '81	182,605,550
March 3, 1863	6	June 30, '81	71,787,000
March 2, 1861	6	July 11, '81	825,800
July 1, 1870, and Jan. 20, 1871	5	May 1, 1881	568,440,350
Total			$ 782,071,700

Of these bonds the loan of February 8, 1861, maturing Dec. 31, 1880, is payable upon the demand of the holders, and can probably be provided for from the surplus revenues.

Under the refunding acts of July 14, 1870, and January 20, 1871, bonds for refunding purposes were authorized in the amount of $1,500,000,000. Of this amount there have been issued, as above stated, $1,395,345,950, leaving available for future refunding operations $104,654,050. It is respectfully suggested that authority be given at the present session of Congress to issue, sell or dispose of, at not less than par in coin, four per cent. bonds of the description set forth in the said act of July 14, 1870, and refunding certificates of the description set forth in the act of February 26, 1879, with like qualities, privileges and exemptions, except as hereinafter stated, to the extent necessary to redeem the bonds falling due on or before July 1, 1881, above described, and to use the proceeds for that purpose. It is hoped that the advancing credit of the country will enable the Secretary to sell such bonds and certificates at a premium, but it seems better to maintain the general conditions of the 4 per cent. bonds rather than to undertake to sell a bond at lower interest. The 4 percent consol is now universally known. The rate of interest is as low as will generally maintain the bond at par, and the premium will measure its advance above par at advance periods. The certificates should bear the same rates and be sold on the same terms as the bonds. If it is important that the authority granted should include the power to refund from the passage of the acts at the present session, and to prepay the excess of interest on the bond to be refunded prior to its maturity. The present is believed to be an exceptionally favorable time for such refunding.

THE NATIONAL BANKS.

The report of the Comptroller of the Currency gives complete statistics relative to the operations of the National banking system, from its organization until the present time; the number of banks in operation on Oct. 2 of the present year, the date of their last reports, was 2,068, and the aggregate capital $454,067,945; surplus, $114,785,028; individual deposits, $719,777,508; specie, including United States coin and certificates, $42,175,731.23; legal tender notes, including United States certificates, $56,953,446; loans $875,013,107. The total circulation outstanding on Nov. 1 was $337,181,418. Among the subjects discussed in the report are the relations which have existed between the National banks and the Government in the resumption of specie payments and in the funding of the public debt. In both of these important financial operations the co-operation of the national banks has been of essential service to the Government. The banks, in the aggregate, have constantly kept on hand as reserves nearly one-third of the entire amount of legal tender notes outstanding, which, together with the coin, is much in excess of the amount of the reserves required by law. They have constantly held as security for their circulating notes and for Government deposits and other purposes more than one-fifth of the interest bearing debt of the United States. They have maintained their legal reserves in the Treasury for the redemption of their circulating notes, and such redemption has been made, without failure or delay, at their expense. In this mode exchanges have been made between all parts of the country at the lowest possible rates. The effect of the business depression prevailing from 1873 until the resumption of specie payments upon the national banks is shown in the losses which they have sustained and the dividends which many have been compelled to pass; also by the noticeable diminution from year to year. The aggregate capital and deposits of banks other than national is also given, and such other information in reference to these banks as could be obtained from the officers who have charge of the execution of the banking laws in the different States. The very large taxes paid by national banks to the National, State and municipal authorities have been a great aid in relieving other property from the burden of taxation, and, in the aggregate are more than the interest at four per cent. on their entire circulation. Thus the large amount of non-taxable United States bonds held by them became taxable, and these taxes are in effect paid for the franchise they enjoy of issuing circulating notes. The cost of liquidating the affairs of national banks which have been placed in the hands of receivers since the establishment of the system, is, for the first time, given in the report, and will serve to correct the impression which has to some extent prevailed that too great a portion of the assets of such banks has been expended in the settlement of their affairs. Tables are also given showing the loss to depositors, and also other creditors, through the insolvency of national banks, and these losses are compared with similar losses incurred by the creditors of insolvent banks other than national, and the comparison is exceedingly favorable to the national system. The circulation of the banks, which, since the passage of the act of January 14, 1875, has largely decreased, is now increasing in its aggregate amount, showing that the system responds promptly to the varying requirements of business. The advantages of this system over any system of banks hitherto devised are that their circulating notes are secured beyond peradventure of loss; they are of universal credit in the country wherever issued; they are more perfectly protected from counterfeiting; they equal exchanges between distant parts of the country; they are promptly redeemed on demand at one common place; the banks are subject to a strict and vigilant surveillance by independent officers of the Government; their condition is frequently made known to the public, and they contribute a very large percentage of their profits in the way of taxes. A system of banking that, after an existence of 18 years, through periods of great inflation and great depression, has produced such results, may fairly appeal for the confidence and support of Congress.

PUBLIC MONEYS.

The monetary transactions of the Government have been conducted through the office of United States Treasurer, nine assistant treasurers, 510 depositaries, and 222 National Bank depositaries. The receipts of the Government from all sources have amounted, during the last year, as shown by warrants, $1,066,634,827,46, of which $502,807,643 have been received from loans, $17,220,047,70 from customs, $113,561610.68 from Internal Revenue, and $25,015,524.18 from sales of land and miscellaneous sources. The receipts were deposited as follows:

In independent treasury offices	$113,330,508.43
In national bank depositories	953,304,319.03

These transactions have been conducted without loss, and it may be stated that all officers engaged in the collection and safekeeping of the revenues of the Government have faithfully held the moneys without loss, until properly transferred or paid out, and that, as far as accounts have been adjusted, there appears to be no loss by defaults in disbursements, the trifling balance not adjusted being suspended mainly for information or investigation.

In this connection attention is invited to the suggestions of the first comptroller of the Treasury, as set forth in his report, in regard to the importance of prescribing by law the frequency and manner in which the current accounts of the disbursing officers of the departments should be subjected to investigation; the danger to the treasury of issuing duplicate bonds in lieu of coupon bonds alleged to have been destroyed; and the importance of defining the word "claim" as used in section 3,477, Revised Statutes of the United States, and to other suggestions of that officer.

REVENUE FROM CUSTOMS.

The disbursements for collecting the revenue from customs, for expenses incurred within the following fiscal years, have been as follows:

In 1877	$6,304,279 77
In 1878	5,565,287 82
In 1879	5,480,779 03

This shows a reduction for 1878 over 1877 of $738,492.53, and a reduction for 1879 over 1878 of $84,508.79, making a total saving for the two years of $823,000.54.

A marked improvement has also occurred during the past year in the collection of the revenue from customs. The revenue under the ad valorem system has fallen short of the amount which should have been collected upon a proper assessment of the real foreign market value. This was due to a system of undervaluation in the entries at the custom houses, especially upon goods consigned by foreign manufacturers to agents in the United States. Evidence of such undervaluations has been obtained in many cases, and upon this evidence the invoice prices have been advanced by the local appraisers, and from these appeals for reappraisement have been taken in a large number of cases. The number of such reappraisements had at the port os New York for the years ending June 30, from 1875 to 1879, is as follows:

1875	167	1878	378
1876	362	1879	556
1877	207		

The General Appraiser at New York states that, according to the re-appraisements demanded since the 30th of June last, the total number for the current fiscal year at that port will be likely to reach 1,000. The action of the Local Appraiser has, however, been generally sustained on the re-appraisements; but the embarrassments resulting therefrom show that some method should be adopted by which such questions may be better disposed of than is permitted by the laws now in force. One method suggested is the adoption of specific duties in place of ad valorem. This change could, it is believed, be safely adopted, with proper limitations in regard to kid gloves, piece silk goods, piece velvets, and some other classes of goods which now pay an ad valorem duty and which constitute the chief ground of dispute as to value between the Government and the importers. Another plan would be to permit the Government, in case of an undervaluation, to take the goods at the invoice price, with a reasonable sum added for freight and other expenses and profit, and then cause sale of the goods to be made on Government account. By a treaty between France and Italy, made some years since, it was provided that goods ascertained by inspection to be undervalued to the extent of 5 per cent. might be seized and sold by the Government, the importer receiving his own valuation for the goods, together with a profit of 5 per cent. A similar plan, adopted in England, had the effect of breaking up this system of undervaluation. The Senate Committee on Finance recommended the adoption of a similar measure in its report on the bill which increased the duty on woolen goods, which became a law March 2, 1867, but it was not adopted by Congress. It contemplated that the Government might take the goods at the importers' valuation with an addition of 10 per cent. for expenses and profit. The Secretary is convinced that if the ad valorem system on the classes of goods named as well as on some others, is continued, the adoption of a plan of this character will prove beneficial to the honest importer, as well as to the interests of the Government.

The difficulties attendant upon the collection of duties on sugars under the Dutch color standard, which were alluded to in the last report of this department, continued during the past year. Sugar continued to be imported which had either been artificially colored by the addition of foreign substances, or which by the process of manufacture had been so radically changed as to produce sugars of the highest saccharine strength, while possessing the lowest grades of color prescribed by the Dutch standard. It has been held by the Courts that Congress in imposing the duty upon sugars according to their color meant the true color of the sugar which is developed by the process of manufacture, and to which indicates the degree of perfection to which the process of clarification has been carried out. Acting upon this view, the Department issued instructions to its customs officers that where the degree of saccharine strength being compared with the color showed that the sugar had not been manufactured in the mode contemplated by law, duties should be collected according to the true color of the sugar, and for the purpose of carrying out this view definite relations were established between the color and the strength. These instructions have had the effect of repressing the importation of the objectionable classes of sugars before referred to, and of producing a more faithful collection of the duties upon sugars imported, according to the true intent and meaning of the law. Until the matter is settled this Department will maintain the position it has heretofore assumed of disregarding the apparent color of the sugar where the facts justify it, and assessing duties upon the true color of the sugar, under the theory above stated. By the adoption of new regulations at the port of New York respecting the weighing of sugar, the difference between the invoice weight and the actual weight as returned by the Government weighers has been reduced from 10 7-10 per cent. in 1876, to 4 7-10 per cent. in 1879, making a saving to the Government in duties of fully $3,000,000.

Reference is made in another part of this report to circumstances under which it may prove necessary to reimpose the duties on tea and coffee. Should additional revenue be required, such revenue can better be derived from these articles than from any other. The duties forming in force were specific, and therefore no troublesome questions of value intervenes. The articles are bulky, and hence cannot be easily smuggled, and the additional cost created by the duty would be so slight as scarcely to be felt by the people.

Some complaint has arisen in regard to the manner in which examinations of passengers' baggage have been made at the port of New York. The system of examination necessary to carry out the law has made the custom officers obnoxious to many people, but any system of examination sufficient to defeat it to prevent smuggling will be offensive to the parties concerned. It has been the aim of the officers of this department to apply the law equally to all persons. The annoyance incidental to the system has been increased by lack of facilities to make the examinations with proper despatch. It is though, however, that the latter cause of complaint will be removed upon the completion of the new barge office already authorized by Congress.

The duties collected on passengers' baggage at the port of New York during the three years ending the 30th of June last were as follows:

1877	$6,301,311	1879	$17,185,791
1878	3,676,064		

The law does not define any limit of quality or value in regard to either household or personal effects of persons arriving in the United States which may be admitted free of duty, and it is recommended that a limitation governing the free entry of these classes of articles may be established by Congress.

FOR Catarrhal and Throat Disorders "*Brown's Bronchial Troches*" are renowned and marvellously effective, giving immediate relief in most cases.

The Youth's Companion.

There are very few juvenile publications whose circulation we are always glad to assist, whose success we are always glad to chronicle. One of the best of the few is the *Youth's Companion*, published by Perry Mason & Co., of Boston. It is to weekly juvenile literature what *St. Nicholas* is to the monthly. "easily first," and its editors understand to perfection the art of combining pleasure and instruction without spoiling either. Its pages are replete with strong editorials, more than 200 stories, stirring sketches of travel and adventure, scenes and incidents of life in other countries, anecdotes, interesting facts, articles on health, sports and pastimes, and many other departments, all full of good things. Naturally such a publication comes to be a favorite with all members of a family, and "Our Young Folks" is read with enjoyment by a great many grown up boys and girls. The regular price is only $1.50 per year.

Good News for the Little Ones.

Christmas never can be said to be fairly in sight until *Ehrichs' Fashion Quarterly* for Winter is out; and now that it has appeared, the little ones' hearts are glad within them, as they contemplate the latest novelties in Toys and Games and Books for the delightful holiday season.

The present number of the *Quarterly* is unusually rich in material and arrangement, and anyone must be hard to please indeed who fails to find in it a suitable present for every member of the family circle. It contains over 700 original illustrations, enabling its readers to judge of an article not only by its written description, but by an accurate illustration as well. Published by EHRICH & Co., 287 to 295 Eighth avenue, New York, at 50 Cents a year, or 15 Cents single copy.

A Constant Source of Wonder.

Why is it that the winners of the prizes in the Louisiana State Lottery Company always seem to be men who are pretty sharp in the ways of the world? Editors, Printers, Hotel Clerks, Bankers, Telegraph Operators, Merchants, and many other professions and occupations seem to have a special knack of hitting the right number. The people enumerated have the best means of fully convincing themselves that the statements made by the company are reliable and true, and that as sure as the sun rises on the 16th of December next, the semi-annual extraordinary distribution will take place at New Orleans, under the sole management of Generals G. T. Beauregard and Jubal A. Early, when over a half of million of dollars will be distributed. The full particulars of which can be had of M. A. Dauphin, New Orleans, La., or send person at No 319 Broadway, New York City, N. Y.

THOSE people whose hair is turning gray should use *Hall's Vegetable Sicilian Hair Renewer* to restore it to its natural color and vigor.

A GRAND OFFER.

A Good Book Free

To Every Subscriber Under This Offer.

CLASS I.

The following list contains an assortment of good books on all subjects, only one of at most two of each title being offered. The books are all as good as new, and retail everywhere at from $1.00 to $1.25 per volume. We will send any book POST PAID at one-half the price annexed, or we will send any book in the list and the BLADE one year on receipt of $1.75, thus giving the subscriber a copy of the paper at CLUB RATES, and a book of his own selection FREE. Since orders are likely to be large, subscribers are requested in all cases to designate a second choice. Selections will have preference in the order in which they are received:

SYLVIA'S BURDEN, a story for girls, by Mrs. Carrie L. Mayo; 290 pages, price $1.25.

THE MOTHER-IN-LAW, a young wife's story, by Mrs. M. Boardman; 341 pages, price $1.25.

FERN GLEN, or Lilian's Prayer, by M. H. Holt; 368 pages, price $1.50.

CARRY MORGAN, or The Stolen Purse, by the author of "Jem the Tinker," 120 pages, colored frontispiece, price 80c.

THE QUEEN MOTHER AND ROSAMOND, a poem, by A. C. Swinburne; 222 pages price $1.50.

AN AVERAGE BOY'S VACATION, by Mary S Deering; 166 pages, price $1.00.

SEVEN YEARS FROM TO-NIGHT, a girl's story, by Mrs. Julia P. Ballard; 366 pages, price $1.25.

WILFRED, or After Many Days, by Lucy Ellen Guernsey; 336 pages, price $1.50.

LAND AND SEA, fascinating papers of travel and adventure; 425 pages, price $1.50.

FAMOUS BOYS, and How They Became Great Men, a volume of short biographies; 341 pages, price $1.50.

ISABEL'S DIFFICULTIES, or Light on the Daily Path, by M. R. Carey; 256 pages, price $1.50.

ROMANCE OF AMERICAN HISTORY, by M. Schele de Vere; 254 pages, tinted paper, price $1.50.

PHILIP IN PALESTINE, edited by M. A. Edwards, 358 pages, price $1.25.

CHAUNCEY JUDD, or The Stolen Boy, a story of the Revolution, by Israel P. Warren; 314 pages, price $1.50.

RICHARD PETERS, or Could He Forgive Him, by Percy Curtis, author of "Amy Garnett;" 350 pages, price $1.25.

THE TENT ON THE BEACH, a poem, by John G. Whittier; 172 pages, tinted paper, illustrated, price $1.50.

PASSAGES IN THE LIFE OF THE FAIR GOSFELER, Mistress Anne Askew, by the author of "Mary Powell;" 276 pages, price $1.00.

THE GOVERNOR'S PARDON, or The Bridge of Sighs, by Mrs. Madeline Leslie; 286 pages, price $1.25.

TWISTED THREADS, a novel, by M. D. Nauman; pages, price $1.50.

THE MOTHER'S WORK WITH SICK CHILDREN, by Prof. J. B Fonssagrives; 243 pages, price 75c.

PASSAGES FROM THE LIFE OF CHAS. KNIGHT, interesting biographical reminiscences of prominent English literary men; 480 pages, price $1.75.

NEWLYN HOUSE, the home of the Davenports, a juvenile story; 361 pages, price $1.50.

COPLEY ANNALS, preserved in proverbs, by the author of "Village Missionaries;" 341 pages, price $1.25.

MARTIN NOBLE, a Boy's Experience of London Life, by John B. Watts; 384 pages, price $1.75.

BEAUTIES OF SACRED LITERATURE, a compendium of Christian doctrine, etc., selected from various authors; 576 pages, price $2.00.

JOURNEY ROUND MY ROOM, from the French of Xavier de Maistre, 152 pages, tinted paper, price $1.25.

AN AUTHENTIC KEY TO THE DOOR OF FREEMASONRY, both ancient and modern; 192 pages, price $1.00.

POEMS OF S. T. COLERIDGE, both lyric and dramatic; 493 pages, price $1.50.

THE MOTHER'S REGISTER, current notes on the health of children, from the French of Prof J. B. Fonssagrives; 153 pages, price 75c.

OUR VACATIONS, and how to Enjoy them, by Frank E. Clark; 308 pages, price 75c.

LOST BUT FOUND, or the Jewish Home, by Aunt Hattie; 279 pages, price $1.25.

ROSE AND ROOF TREE, poems by George Parsons Lathrop; 126 pages, price $1.00.

THINGS COMMON AND UNCOMMON, a story by Mary Dwinell Chellis; 339 pages, price $1.50.

LIFE AND ITS LOWER, INTERMEDIATE AND HIGHER FORMS, by Philip Henry Gosse; 360 pages, price $1.50.

HIGHWAYS AND HEDGES, or Following the Master, written for the Massachusetts Sabbath School Society; 360 pages, price $1.50.

THE HERDSMAN, a tale from the German; 156 page, price $1.00.

THE LITTLE SANCTUARY, and other meditations, by Alexander Raleigh, D.D.; 334 pages, price $1.75.

LITTLE PEOPLE WHOM THE LORD LOVED, by J. E. R. P.; 251 pages, price $1.25.

AUTOGRAPH ALBUM, heavy paper, full gilt edges, embossed cloth binding; price $1.00.

SOME WOMEN'S HEARTS, eight short stories by Louise Chandler Moulton; 341 pages, price $1.50.

CHOLULA, or the Young Mexican; 233 pages, price $1.00.

THE GOVERNOR'S PARDON, or the Bridge of Sighs, by Mrs. Madeline Leslie; 286 pages, price $1.25.

STORIES OF REFORMATION in Germany and England for young people, by Rev. B. G. Johns, M.A.; 319 pages, price $1.00.

STORIES OF THE PATRIARCHS, by William M. Thayer; 392 pages, price $1.25.

The Life-Saving Service.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—The General Superintendent of the Life-Saving Service has completed his annual report. It shows that at the close of the fiscal year the establishment embraced 172 stations, of which 136 were on the Atlantic, 30 on the lakes and six on the Pacific. Within the limits of the operations of the service there were 219 disasters to vessels. The number of persons on board these vessels was 2,107, of whom 2,049 were saved and 58 lost. There were succored at stations 371 shipwrecked persons, 1,074 days of relief being afforded them. In the aggregate the number of persons brought ashore from wrecked vessels by the life-saving appliances of the stations was 412. In addition, the life-saving crews assisted off when stranded, got out of dangerous positions and piloted to places of safety 89 vessels. The estimated value of the whole number of vessels involved, was $1,922,610, making a total value of property in peril of $2,887,886. Of this amount $1,446,086 was saved and $1,442,600 lost. The number of disasters involving a total loss of vessels was 54. The number of disasters to vessels, 217, is greater than that of any previous year, the highest former number being 171. It is shown that on the lakes the loss of life in 1876, when there were no life-saving stations, was one out of 54 persons on board vessels suffering disaster, or one out of every five casualties. In the year 1879, the stations were in operation, the loss of life sank to one out of every 216 persons imperilled, or one out of every 21 casualties. It is further shown that since the commencement of the present fiscal year up to the date of the report, including an unusually calamitous Autumn in that region, 61 disasters have occurred within the field of life-saving operations on the lake, there being on board the vessels involved 468 persons, of whom only one was lost.

I DEEM it my duty to acquaint suffering humanity with the fact that St. Jacob's Oil is the most beneficial remedy ever introduced; this I have practical tested. For the past 16 years I have suffered with Rheumatism, and so severely that I was often robbed of my night's rest. A change of weather would have the most painful effect on me, for then I could move neither hands nor feet. I tried every known remedy, but of no avail; at last somebody recommended St. Jacobs Oil, and I concluded to try it, but with little hope for relief. Having hardly used half a bottle, the pains diminished, and to-day I am well and hardy once more. The small sum of fifty cents I had cured me.

THOMAS OTT, St. Boniface, Pa.

None too Plenty.

Good cigars are not half so plenty as the attractive names and fancy pictures which adorn the boxes. But the BLADE this week announces a new cigar which is made by a Toledo manufacturer, and which has already won quite a reputation in this immediate vicinity. Mr. Blum is well known to us as an honest and reliable manufacturer, and our readers can order of him, with the assurance that they will get just what he offers them without any risk whatever.

CAUCUS OF DEMOCRATIC SENATORS.

Majority Representation to Remain as Fixed at the Extra Session.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Democratic Senators met in caucus this morning. There was a large attendance. Senator Wallace, chairman of the caucus announced that the meeting had been called as usual at the begining of the session to consider the subject of revising Democratic membership of committees prior to reappointment by the Senate.

No vacancies having been created by death or resignation in Democratic membership during the recess of Congress and there being no applications presented to-day for exchanges, it was resolved that it was resolved that a majority of representation shall remain as fixed at the extra session and the Chairman was directed to notify the Republicans that the Committee positions occupied by the late Sen. Chandler are at the disposal of the minority.

A somewhat general discussion then ensued concerning the distribution of the Senate patronage. Several of the Senators complained that it had not been equitably distributed, and said that when officers of the Senate were spoken to on the subject, they referred to the caucus resolutions of last year, which bound them to retain certain employees except in the event of misconduct, and contended that with the remainder of patronage they had done the best they could. The question of amending these resolutions was then broached. There was no disposition manifested to interfere with the one by which officers were required to retain all disabled Union soldiers that were on the roll, but it was remarked that there are still employed by the Senate a number of men placed in office by Republicans who were never in the army in any capacity and a desire was expressed by some of the members of the caucus to replace them with Democrats.

After some discussion, a resolution directing inquiry into the nature of the instructions given by the caucus last session, and several other resolutions providing specifically for the retention of Capt. Bassett and various other old employes in the case, and further changes that are made were referred to the Caucus Committee on Organization, created last March, to be reported on hereafter.

Republican Senators hold a caucus this afternoon. There is no doubt that Sen. Baldwin (Michigan) will be assigned to the places held by his predecessor.

WEDDING CEREMONIES.

Madrid Ablaze with Excitement Over the Marriage of King Alfonso.

MADRID, Nov. 29.—The weather improved in the morning to such a degree that as early as 7 o'clock the streets and balconies were thronged with people, and much animation prevailed. Many houses have been decorated, and triumphal arches are erected at various points. Everybody is speaking of the marriage of King Alfonso and the Archduchess Maria Christina, which would take place in the forenoon.

In the morning bands of regiments quartered in the city played reville before the royal palace and afterward marched through the principal streets.

The royal wedding was solemnized in the Atochi Church, according to the program. The bride left the Pardo Palace in the morning for the Ministry of Marine, where apartments had been prepared for her, in which she was robed for marriage. King Alfonso left the Royal Palace for Atochi Church shortly before 11 o'clock. He was accompanied by Archduke Renier, and was preceded by 11 carriages containing his mother, ex-Queen Isabella, Princess of Asturias and other members of the royal family, grandees of Spain and Court dignitaries. The bride approached the church by another route. She was accompanied by her mother and was preceded by four carriages containing ladies of honor and court dignitaries. The bride was richly dressed in white, and wore a diadem of brilliants, the insignia of the Maria Louise Order. Troops lined the streets through which the procession marched. The Atochi Church was splendidly illuminated and decorated with rich silken draperies. The Diplomatic body, Spanish grandees and deputations from the Senate and Chamber of Deputies received the King at the Church and occupied the nave. The bride was much moved during the ceremony, Benediction was given in benalf of the Pope by the Cardinal Patriarch of the Indies, who officiated at the nuptial mass.

FRENCH POLITICS.

The Present Ministry to Remain in Power.

LONDON, Dec. 2.—A correspondent at Paris discussing the statement of the Journal of Debates that the Ministry cannot possibly entertain the scheme for framing a program for their acceptance, says: "This is the only possible course open to the Cabinet, after the unexpected attitude assumed by the majority. Nobody will be able to comprehend how a majority so strong as that of the present Chamber of Deputies, on which the Government has been leaning for 10 months, can declare that it will not support this very Cabinet except on condition of framing a program and imposing this on it for every individual. The Deputy has the right of submitting any bill and interpellations, followed by the order of the day, were devised only to enable the majority to show the ministry the withdrawal of its confidence.

Discussing the vote of confidence which ends the crisis by consolidating the ministry the correspondent says: "It seems beyond doubt that this vote will be given because the left is not acting in common accord with certain factions of the majority. They will resist the fall of the Cabinet and will force the majority not to upset the ministry which Gambetta does not wish to succeed and whose only successor apart from Gambetta could be Defreycinet and this would always enable Gambetta to wait his own time."

NEW YORK *Commercial Advertiser:*

"The harp that once through Tammany Hall,
It's soul of bluesey shed,
Now hangs all mute in that same hall;
For, by me soul, it's dead."
Funeral later.

TUTT'S PILLS

SYMPTOMS OF A

TORPID LIVER.

Loss of Appetite, Bowels costive, Pain in the Head, with a dull sensation in the back part, Pain under the shoulder blade, Fullness after eating, with a disinclination to exertion of body or mind, Irritability of temper, Low spirits, with a feeling of having neglected some duty, Weariness, Dizziness, Fluttering at the Heart, Dots before the eyes, Yellow Skin, Headache generally over the right eye, Restlessness with fitful dreams, Highly colored Urine. IF THESE WARNINGS ARE UNHEEDED, SERIOUS DISEASES WILL SOON BE DEVELOPED.

TUTT'S PILLS are especially adapted to such cases, one dose effects such a change of feeling as to astonish the sufferer.

CONSTIPATION.

Only with regularity of the bowels can perfect health be enjoyed. If the constipation is of recent date, a single dose of TUTT'S PILLS will suffice. But if it has become habitual, one pill should be taken every night, gradually lessening the frequency of the dose until a regular daily movement is obtained, which will soon follow.

Dr. I. Guy Lewis, Fulton, Ark., says:

"After a practice of 15 years, I pronounce TUTT'S PILLS the best anti-bilious medicine ever made."

Rev. F. R. Osgood, New York, says:

"I have had Dyspepsia, Weak Stomach and Nervousness. I never had any medicine to do me so much good as TUTT'S PILLS. They are as good as a special agent."

Office 35 Murray Street, New York.

TUTT'S HAIR DYE.

GRAY HAIR OR WHISKERS changed to a GLOSSY BLACK by a single application of this DYE. It imparts a Natural Color, acts instantaneously, and is as Harmless as spring water. Sold by Druggists, or sent by express on receipt of $1.

Office 35 Murray St., New York.

THE HOLMAN Liver & Stomach Pad

TRADE-MARK.

Cures Without Medicine, Simply by Absorption. The Best Liver, Stomach & Spleen Doctor in the World.

There is no known remedy that will so promptly and efficiently invigorate Healthy STOMACH *and* LIVER, *and so thoroughly forti-fy the system against the sudden changes of our climate, as the wonderful, vitalizing, health-giving Holman Liver and Stomach Pad.*

The Holman Liver and Stomach Pad

Works by Absorption. IS *two-fold in its action—gives and takes. Is Honest, Effective, Harmless.*

IT is a certain cure for every species of LIVER and STOMACH troubles, the seat of most all diseases.

IT removes torpidity of the Liver, gives tone to the Stomach, and vitalizes the entire system.

IT absorbs from the body every particle of blood-poison, bilious, malarial or medicinal, and leaves the wearer in perfect health

IT is the most wonderful discovery of the nineteenth century, and marks a new era in the history of medical science

IT is a fact, incontestably proved in thousands upon thousands of cases, *that the Holman Liver and Stomach Pad will do all that is claimed for it.

The Household.

CORRESPONDENTS writing for this Department will please observe the following rules:

1. Write Household Department on the envelope.

2. Give real name and Post Office address—not for publication, unless you wish—but for reference in case it is necessary to address you by mail.

3. Write only on one side of the paper; write plainly as possible, and do not interline.

4. Be as brief as the nature of the subject will allow.

From "Observer."

Well, David, my boy, you asked some questions which, I suppose, I am under obligations to answer having provoked them. To begin, you say, "I like some of the boys, but them work all day under the burning sun and call them in to do housework until time to retire." Now, Dan, you are too hasty. I did not mean, either did I say, to call either man or boy from his work to assist with the housework. Furthermore, if you mean to say all day from sun to sun, in the field, it is you, if you are a father, that are making the slaves of your boys. Your cruelty exceeds anything that could be invented by woman. To oblige your family to rise early enough in the morning to be in the field at sunrise, and then keep them there until sundown stamps you not only as an avaricious miserly man, but a cruel and heartless father and husband. We are told that a merciful man is merciful to his beasts. Rise at five, be in the field at six, quit at 11:30 A. M. In the field at 1:30 P. M., and quit at six, and you are a merciful, healthy, prosperous and cheerful farmer, father and husband.

Second—You say where there are seven boys and one girl, it is all very good amusement, but on the other hand that "I would not allow the girls to work up on him but insist upon him helping them as much as though he was the seventh son. Now, put on your glasses and look again, David, and tell me on your word if you can find a single plea in behalf of girls. I did not say help the girls; I said help the mother, and I would insist just as much upon the girls helping her as the boys.

Third—You say "has man arrived at so low a state of degradation as to be fit only for a slave?" No, sir. Man is human, made in the image of his Maker; a noble structure, mentally, morally and physically, if properly reared. You are, I hope, a free born "American." It is my object, as I think it should be the duty of every American mother, to rear my sons to be liberty loving men. You, I see, loath anything that even in your erroneous imagination approaches your thraldom. You have no doubt look with pride upon the glorious results of four years' struggle to suppress American slavery, and surely you who scorn it for yourself and have probably offered life even in defence of liberty of another race would not impose upon the loving creature you have, or some day may promise to love and cherish, neither ought you to allow your sons to impose upon her that is to them more dear than all the world beside.

Fourth—You broach the subject of woman's sphere designed her by her creator. As I said before it is not girls but mothers wrongs that I plead. Although I can and will if you wish it, give you many ideas of the usefulness of girls at out door, and what many would term boy's work, that I have never seen in print, and have heard but few persons speak of.

Fifth—You say a man's place is out of doors, and a woman's in the house. Yet if we are to judge by actions which speak louder than words, he has a very great liking for the house. And I can say from personal experience, that I do not think it is an arduous task to hunt borers, prune trees, bud the young slips in August, hoe in the garden, and the many out door employments that women and girls can engage in usefully and beneficially.

Lastly, you ask "what I would have my seven daughters do to keep them busy if I would have my son assist them in their light duties. Would I have them grow up in idleness?"

Again, Dan, I must remind you that it was not the daughters but the mothers that I want helped. But, most emphatically, I would not allow them to wait upon him. As I said in my last article, it would be injustice to my future daughter-in-law. Beside, a mother with seven daughters, don't need his help very much, but she ought to have her daughters help with the out door work enough at least to bring her son in sometimes to assist in the in door work, else he will be so wholly ignorant of household affairs as to be wholly unfit for a husband.

As to employing my daughter, never fear—a wise mother mother will never allow such a mischief maker in her house and Dan, when you speak of taking part in household duties, you term it "slavery," and think it dreadful. But in speaking of it as girls' work, it is light duties. How is this Dan?

OBSERVER.

Fairmount, Kan.

Odds and Ends.

I was so tired this afternoon when the weeks washing was on the line that I could not think of sewing in the two or three hours that remained before supper time, so I took up the "Blade" and read the household. I was much interested in the "Prairie Queen's" letter, and I can't help but think that some of the sisters are too hard on her. Because she says she does not spoil her children, it's no sign that she neglects them, it is a common but mistaken idea that a mother must give her very life to her family, lose her identity in them entirely, or she cannot be a good mother, and wouldn't change to a "biddy" either, there are enough women of that class now, perfect slaves to their families. So be a queen in your own right, even if it be of but three small rooms. Perhaps I am more attracted to Prairie Queen, because so much in her letters remind me of my own experience. Like her, I was married at 15, and was a mother at 17, and now at 28, have been five years a widow. Like her, I know how hard it is to be confined in the house all the time; so don't reprove her, good friends if she can leave her little ones for an hour and go to church.

I see that some of the ladies are a little incredulous over Shirley Dare's easy way of washing, and I must confess that after reading that letter I went and looked at that great basket of not only soiled, but downright dirty clothes, and wondered if the dirt and grime could be induced to come out by any such means. It is quite possible that washing in cold water might do very well for a few weeks, if the clothes were not very dirty, but even then I fear that in a short time they would be anything but white. A few years ago, I tried a highly recommended washing crystal, that really did make the work much lighter, and for a few weeks washing day ceased to be a terror; then the clothes began to take on a dingy hue, and it took weeks of hard work to get them back to their original whiteness.

Washing machines? Yes, we have seen them, and tried some of them, too, but I never saw one that it did not take just as long to look over the clothes and rub out the dirty spots, as it would to have done the work in the first place. Now I have discarded all washing machines, and washing fluids, and a good washboard and soap and water are all the help I have to make washing easy. I always sort the clothes, washing the finest first, and put every article through two suds, boil, and rinse in water very slightly blued, and although I am often very tired, when the last garment is on the line, I have the satisfaction of knowing that there will be no spots or streaks to annoy me when ironing day comes. But all women have not the strength to wash in this way, and I don't wonder that from all over the land there comes a cry for some way to make washing easy. The man who invents a washing machine that will do all the work required of it, and do it well, and at the same time not be so complicated as to need an engineer to run it, will have many women to up and call him blessed.

Some time ago a lady of the household asked if a person could be a lady and talk "slang." I have waited thinking some one would answer this question. Sure it is not so unimportant that we can pass it by without a notice. Certain it is that many persons calling themselves ladies, do use the slang phrases of the day, but I never heard any one say that it added to their attraction. Every one of those slang phrases has a meaning attached to it, often of the very worst kind, and I have often thought when I heard young girls using them, even in the presence of gentlemen, that if they but knew the meaning of the words they use, their cheeks would crimson with shame. Don't do it girls; don't pick up these idle words, which, if they have any meaning at all, often have a bad one. Nothing is more disagreeable to me at least, than the conversation of a person whose every other sentence, containing a slang phrase. Let us hear what others have to say on this subject.

Nellie of Jordan is a young housekeeper, but I honor the spirit that does not believe in sitting down to read in the midst of dirt and disorder, or closing the door on it, going off visiting. There is a time for all things, and if the work is managed right the time to read and visit will come in their turn, but young housekeepers should not get into the habit of giving all their time to the house work, make every minute count, and learn the best manner of doing your work, so that you may have time for something besides house work. A little care and thought saves a great many steps sometimes, but the tea-kettle is boiling, and I must "lay down the pen" for this time.

COUNTRY COUSIN.

Argyle, Wis.

Female Emigration.

I received a number of letters of inquiry from ladies living in different parts of the east in regard to Kansas and the chances for remunerative employment.

The letters were too numerous to answer by mail. I like to see the independent spirit that shows itself in every line of correspondence I received. I would like very much to assist ladies in obtaining employment here. Our Kansas papers have several times spoken of the great necessity of female emigration, young men leave the over-crowded cities of the east determined to make a mark in life before they take the responsibility of a family. It is a healthy and pleasant climate, good society, and all that need be required to make a person happy. But there is one mistake in too many ladies expecting to get schools. Central and Western Kansas has not fully settled up to guarantee large salaries for teaching. The eastern part of the State has room for many more teachers, *if* they are *good* ones, for there are too many poor ones there now.

The obstacle which hinders ladies from coming to Kansas is the objection to traveling alone and coming among strangers, not knowing where to go to find employment, and that is no small objection. If any of the ladies of the Household can give a good plan to enable ladies wishing to go West to go in a safe and respectable way, I wish they would give their views in these columns and greatly oblige not one or two, but perhaps hundreds who would gladly accept the plans if they looked sensible. I have no doubt that many could give a good plan if they thought awhile about it. I thought of one plan—if enough would send me their names, employment desired, etc., I would advertise in the leading papers of the State to supply any of the different capacities which they generally fill. They (the newspapers) could state the kind of a lady desired, age, occupation nationality, etc., and I could address the lady immediately in regard to the situation, that is my plan I will give it more fully a future time if any one desires it.

Ladies please give this something more than a passing notice, it is as worthy a subject to comment on as recipes, kissing and many other subjects that fill the Household. Give your opinions and oblige a friend of the true hearted lady who wishes to help herself and oblige the hundreds that would be benefited by the favor. T. W. HEY

Wilson, Elsworth, Co., Kans.

From Barbara Green.

Well, ladies, we are glad, are we not, that those of us who like pea soup can eat it, and those that prefer sack towels have permission to use them, providing we make no ado about the matter? I think it will take almost as much force thought as to write about washing. Others might say let those who prefer washing machines use them, also washboards, for some will not use machines. Why can not those of us who have kept house for 20 years have charity for the younger ones, and if they happen to send a recipe we do not like, or write something we think foolish, say "it may be the first, she will do better some time." It may be that they have done their best, and you know that the widow's mite was worth more than the rich man's treasure. If the editor has charity enough to print, let us not unkindly wound feelings. Our folks have worn out two Dotys, and now have a machine that we consider far ahead of Doty's. Doty's is very good with a man to work it, but we always called it the woman-killer. In fact, we could not work it, but now we can wash for our family of 13, and with the help of the little ones and two boilers, get our washing out by 11 o'clock, and not be jarred to death either. The two boilers we consider a decided improvement, as we do not have to wait on the clothes, and the beds are left until the clothes are done, or one of us it at leisure, which is not often the case till the clothes are on the line.

We can only exchange ideas about washing, soap, etc., leaving it to those who read to profit by it or let it alone. It is the same about dancing, kissing, tobacco, etc. Lusk, who has used tobacco since a child, is not going to quit, no matter if the wife's and babies' health is injured by it, for he is convinced it does no harm, and he would use it to morrow if he never had before, and knew as much of its good qualities as now, and "he that is convinced against his will is of the same opinion still." Some cannot stand tobacco smoke, others are stronger, and men are usually so cross without it, if they have been addicted to the use of it from childhood, that the wife would rather have tobacco than crossness. I presume he is teaching his little boys to smoke and chew, occasionally putting the pipe or plug of tobacco to the mouth of his little girl. For he must not be selfish, and it is as good for her as for the boy. One soul is as pure as the other and if it will add to the health, purity and comfort of the boy, why not to the girl?

BARBARA GREENE.

My Counterpane.

I have been very much interested in the various suggestions given in the Household, so I thought I must tell you of my nice, warm counterpane. Pattern: Take a piece of pasteboard, cut it perfectly round, two inches across. Cut your pieces out of white muslin, turn the edge down all around, and gather and draw it up as closely as possible; fasten the thread securely; now lay the gathers with the needle evenly and flatten it out, and you have a rosette gathered on one side, and plain on the other. It is now double. Place 50 of those, basted an a breadth of muslin side by side as close as they can be, then when I cover the whole breadth I sew them on with the machine. Cover three breadths, leaving a space in the center of the middle breadth to cover with larger ones every alternate row, after you have joined the widths together. You must be sure to cut them long enough to allow for a little taking up in sewing, and also leave a place for the border. Make a border of the larger sized ones, as many rows as desired. Mine contains 2,500 pieces, and is the admiration of all who see it. It can be made at odd minutes, or when you are waiting for some one. How easy to make a rose, and you will be astonished to see how quickly they will accumulate.

Annie Abbott, I would like to shake hands with you; you are a woman after my own heart. There is no need of women being coarse and rough-handed as men working with stone and mortar. If there were a little more pains taken with oneself women might, as a general thing, preserve their good looks until old age, and then there is a sweetness about some well-preserved old ladies that others can lay no claim to.

I would like to say a few words to one who signs himself "Luck." I always like to see the understanding elevated, but would most decidedly object to any one using my mirrors for a footstool, and to have my sitting-room and parlor filled with smoke—why, it would be insufferable. No doubt your wife likes her comfort too; and to think of any lady taking solid comfort out of tobacco smoke in curtains, and carpets, and rugs, and everything in the room, is absurd. How would you like to see your wife with a pipe or cigarette, puffing away with her feet on the bureau, and then hear her say to her lady friends, "Oh, my husband loves to see me enjoy myself." She has the same right. My husband does not use the weed in any way; but my 18 year-old boy does—but not in the house.

I will give you, sisters, my recipe for making tea rolls: When baking, take a piece of the dough about the size of a small loaf of bread, and work into it a teacupful of sugar, two-thirds of a cup of lard, and then let it rise again; when light, roll to a half-inch in thickness and spread with butter and sugar, and cut in squares and roll up tightly; let it rise again, then bake it quickly; eat hot.

PAULZA.

Camden, O.

Crystallized Baskets.

"Isadore," perhaps I can help you with your alum basket. Allow me to throw in a preliminary remark beforehand, though. In making this kind of a basket sometimes the crystal will form irregularly, even with the greatest care. The plan is to dissolve alum in a little more than twice as much water as will be necessary for the depth of all, including the handle, putting in as much alum as the water will dissolve; when it will take no more, it is then called a "saturated solution" of alum. In this state it should be poured into a saucepan and slowly boiled until nearly half evaporated. The frame of the basket may be made in any shape you please, of small wire woven in and out, like basket work, a rough surface may be produced by winding it all over with worsted. The basket should then be suspended from a small stick, laid across the jar in such a way that both it and the handle will be covered by the solution. Afterwards allow it to dry in a cool place where not the slightest motion will disturb the formation of the crystals. If you wish colored crystals, sulphate of copper will produce beautiful blue ones, but you must use it very carefully. It is the best way to strain the solution through muslin before it is boiled, to have the crystals very clear and pure.

"Mary," did you ever try the solution of iodine for "Goitre." Take of iodine, one drachm, iodide of potassium two drachms, and dissolve in two and a half ounces of soft water. Apply this solution with a feather and continue its use twice a day until the the tumor disappears. If the parts shoul I become too tender by its use, it may be omitted for a single day only and then used again. It will do no good, unless it causes the scurf skin to peel off in small scales which it will probably do a number of times before the tumor entirely disappears. It is not necessary to rub in the solution, merely wetting the skin night and morning being sufficient. You will need to practice that greatest of virtues—patience—as it takes time

"In the Dark," perhaps I can help you frost that cake. The proper proportion is one egg to a cup of sugar. Put enough water to the sugar to prexent it from burning and boil until it "hairs," stirring constantly. When cold, add the egg—well beaten and have your cake cold. I do not think you will be troubled any more with "dark greasy frosting."

LYDA.

The Boys versus the Girls.

The following question was asked in last week's BLADE: Is it boys or girls work to milk a cow? I think it is the work of both, under the following circumstances. In a family where there are three or four girls, and only one boy, it is the girls' work to do all the milking, except in rough weather. And then, if the cows are stabled, the girls may help or do it as they choose. Generally, where there is only one boy, he has to do as much as would be done if there were two or three of them; thus you see it keeps him busy doing his own work. But, in a family where there are three or four boys and only one girl, it is the boys' work to do the milking all the time. Where there is only one girl and three boys, the girl has just three times as much work to do, if there were none. I know how milking goes. When a cow can kick down two panels of plank fence at one blow, it is not a very desirable thing to milk.

I would say to J. D. B. that I do not think there is any reliable cure known. I have tried several that were recommended as infallible cures for chicken cholera, and all failed. It is like the yellow fever, when it takes hold there is no letting go.

ANDREW K. MARTIN.

Grafton, W. Va.

A Sermon Without a Text.

I thank "Country Girl" for her letter of October 2. Her remarks were very forcible, and deserve a response from every true heart. Little acts of kindness, gentle words, loving smiles—they strew the path of life with flowers, and He who bade us "love one another" looks with favor upon the gentle and kind hearted. Rightly has it been said: "The erring need the dew of gentle words to refresh their weary hearts." On earth we need not expect perfection. Many times do wayward mortals leave the bright paths of virtue to wander in the dark desert of vice. If we expect forgiveness from Him who ever deals justly, we must forgive the erring, though they have many times transgressed, and not forsake them and turn coldly away. Seek to win that erring brother back to right ways by kind words and gentle deeds; stretch forth a helping hand, O ye who bear Christianity's hallowed name! Let not the repentant, erring one be driven to the abodes of infamy for want of your encouraging words, and encouraging smiles, remembering that they who turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars forever and ever."

Be kind to each other!
For short is life's span;
We must crowd in its compass
All the good acts we can.
Each hour should recall, as it passes away,
Some being made glad by Love's kindly sway.

Yes, sisters, our influence is great. For the approbation of woman, the grown up youth will undertake the boldest enterprise and brave every difficulty of study, and even death itself. To the happiness of woman the man of mature years will devote the best energies of his mind and body; and from the soothing and affectionate regard of women, the man who has become venerable in years derives his chief consolation.

"Country Girl," I should like to know you also. P. A. Brown, whose description of Maryland scenery delighted me greatly. NELLIE S.

Blue-bell Root for Coughs.

Believing that it is more blessed to give than to receive, I will offer a simple remedy to the afflicted part of the family whether they be "rich or poor, bound or free," with my own certain knowledge of its efficacy to cure all lung affections that can be cured, or debility arising from a diseased state of the liver. I say simple because so many think if medicine does not come out of a doctor's pill-bags with a good bill attached, it is not worth anything. Why not use the money expended in this way, to procure warm clothing for our family, now that the cold winds of winter are upon us, for I do believe our Father has planted with his own hand, even at our feet, enough for all our maladies without money or price. Just think how our dooryards and lawns are dotted over with the rich yellow blossoms of the dandelion, enough to remove all the liver blotches from all the faces in the land. The article I refer to particularly is not so abundant, but of much stronger qualities, known by different names—sweat-root or blue bells. This cured me of a cough of long standing in so short a time, that I must send it to the Household thinking it might reach some one under like affliction. I could tell you of others in my knowledge, but have not time or space

This plant grows in rich ground, a good deal along streams I think, as I have gathered most of what I have along the Sandusky river, though it grows in many other localities. I can send any one some of the leaves (as I have set some out in my garden) which will enable them to find it. It is to be taken in the form of bitters—a tablespoonful three or four times a day, or plain tea in larger doses.

MRS. SARAH S BROGIUS.

Box 957, Tiffin, Ohio.

Not Girls' Work.

In answer to Fannie A. Hunt I would like to say that I think the girls are right in not thinking it their work to milk the cows, and the boys wrong. I would not like to have my sister milk as long as I was able to do it myself. I do not think it exactly the right place for women about the cow yard or stables. Here in the East I have seen few women milk, although there are some that like the fun of doing it. But, with a few exceptions the boys and men do the milking, and are glad to get off with that, as where butter is made they sometimes have the churning to do, and in some cases have the entire dairy to take care of. Most of the milk here is sent to New York to condensed milk factories, cheese factories and creameries. But where butter is made the girls generally come in for their share of the work. Now, girls, if your brothers have time to do the milking (and I think they can make time if they will), why make them do it? Although all farmers girls should know how, and then if they are nice and obliging girls that they should be, they won't be afraid nor ashamed to help their brothers once in a while when they come home tired and late from a hard day's work. And if they are honest and kind hearted boys, they will appreciate and thank you for it. YOUNG FARMER.

Brookfield Center, Ct.

Baby Bernie.

Baby Bernie, six months old,
You are worth your weight in gold,
You are mamma's treasure trove,
Calling forth her tend'rest love.

Oh! the winsome fairy grace,
Dimpling in your sunny face,
Oh, the wonder in your eyes,
Opened oft in sweet surprise.

Do you think this world is wide?
Sitting close to mamma's side,
You can look and see so much,
Which in vain you strive to touch.

Much you reach for, baby own,
Now in childhood, and when grown,
Will elude your outstretched arms,
Reached will prove but fleeting charms.

Music in your merry voice,
Makes the heart thrill and rejoice,
Mamma's thankful that no moans
Come like discord in your tones.

All your baby ways are sweet
To the eyes that watching greet
Every evidence of thought,
That your baby brain has wrought.

Tired now, and you must rest,
Closer come to mamma's breast,
O'er you now, my vigils keep,
Baby Bernie, fast asleep. M. P.

Information Asked.

Can any of you tell me how to fade a black hair switch? I colored it with logwood, and it is too black for a crow. I would be glad to know how to make it a few shades lighter, as it is nice hair. The hair was grey at first, and I wish now I had left it so.

My Florida moss is growing nice, but I suppose the winter will kill it. Would it not be very pretty to make a moss wreath on a pink satin lining? One could get moss from all parts of the world and use only the most delicate and beautiful kinds; they could be gummed on, and would be nicer to have their own colors. The woods in the South have many kinds of delicate mosses. I have a curious spray sent me from Puget Sound, it is over a yard long and as fine as spool cotton. When shall I take up a bitter-sweet vine to have it grow? I have not seen the BLADE for most a year and a half, and know I have missed many good things.

An Indian maiden called on me lately, her garment which we will call a polonaise, was made of three red cotton kerchiefs, the borders being arranged on the shoulders and under the arms. She smoked a cigar while I talked.

M. W. KANADY.

Cedarvale, Kan.

The Sensible Girls.

"Cincinnatus" must study the girls whom he meets, and he will find that sensible, true-hearted girls, do not consecrate all their talents and energies to the business of getting a husband; the really worthy are not always the most conspicuous. If he, with many others would talk sensibly with girls, as though they knew something besides how to flirt and looks pretty, we would not have cause to lament, because "girls are so silly, vain and useless." The reason they are silly is because they associate with silly people. For all they (the men) talk of the girls that only know how to talk small talk, I must confess that I have never yet seen a young man forsake a pretty, dashy sort of a girl to talk sense with a sensible one, who was, perhaps, plainer dressed. I don't say all men will do this way. I only mean that I have never happened to see one that did very differently. Certainly, if they will pay the foolish girls the most attention, foolish girls, I greatly fear will win the day. Talk something besides nonsense to the girls, and they will talk sensibly to you.

W. N. B., a little salt rubbed on the teeth, once or twice a week, will prevent tartar from forming on them.

EVELYN MAY.

A Comparison.

Intemperance and the use of tobacco have so often been compared with what is called the weakness of women, the follies of fashion. Does a lady make any one miserable, or ruin anyone, by dressing prettily and in style? "Yes," says some old fogy, "many a woman has ruined her husband by dressing in style." Never will a woman spend more than her husband can afford if he keep her posted with regard to his financial affairs. She thinks him rich if he can wear a plug hat and smoke the best cigars, carry a gold-headed cane and go to the club four nights out of a week. What gentleman would be willing to have his wife dress as did our great-grandmothers, while her acquaintances were dressed prettily and shabbily? This first question would be, "why can't you look as nice and neat as others Mrs. M——or Mrs. C——?" You look old enough to be their grand-mothers." If you would only believe it, it is only style that has made the lady of to-day look so much neater and prettier than those of 100 years ago. MAB.

Whitehouse, O.

Starching.

If Anna C. will follow directions I think she will have no trouble. For convenience I use corn starch, as I always keep it for cooking. Make it in the usual way, taking care it isn't too thick; while hot, stir into it a lump of butter or some nicely shaved white soap will do as well. Starch the shirt while wet on the wrong side; when dry, dissolve some starch in cold water, dip the bosoms and cuffs quickly, but taking care they are thoroughly wet, as that will prevent blistering; roll tightly and let lie an hour at least—longer is better—turn, straighten bosom, rub with clean cloth; be sure the irons are perfectly clean and smooth, and not too hot, and report success ISADORE.

Windom, Minn.

"Wild Rose," of Rockport, Ind., wants to know how to destroy dock weed. I think the best way is to pull them up in the Spring when the ground is moist. There is a tool made somewhere here in the East called a spud. It has a blade about eight or 10 inches long and about three inches wide (A spade would answer the purpose) With this the root is cut off three or four inches below the ground—a very effective way, and sure death to the weed. Some farmers here let them grow till the seed is most ripe, when they cut them off and burn them. The old root will die out in two or three years. Any of the above ways are good, and if followed up will end in cleaning out the weed. YOUNG FARMER.

Brookfield Center, Conn.

A Pretty Hanging Basket.

Take a peach can, melt and remove the top of the can. Then cut in strips one-third of an inch wide and press in any shape you wish, leaving it larger at the top than at the bottom. Crinch the ends at the top over a strong wire; paint green, line with wood moss and fill with rich soil. Plant in it any running vine and hang it at the window by a wire or chain. F. A. B.

Beef-Gall for Grease Spots.

If any of the sisters get grease or oil on their cashmere or wool dresses, I wish them to try my way of getting it out: Put beef gall into rainwater, make a strong decoction of it, then sponge the goods thoroughly and dry in the sun; when dry, press; it will not soil or change the color of any wool goods.

MRS. M. A. DANFORTH.

Pontiac, Ill.

To Pickle Cabbage.

Cut, salt and pound it in the vessel just as you would kraut; for 10 gallons put in as you go along, a little at a time, one quart of sorghum molassess, four or five heaping teaspoonsful each of cloves allspice and black pepper; when your vessel is full put on rain water enough to cover; set in a warm place, and in from two to four weeks you will have as nice a pickle as you ever ate. G. J. M.

Burlingame, Kan.

Exchanges Wanted.

I will exchange fine specimens of minerals, crystals, petrified moss (very pretty) leaves and grass for books of travel, adventure, natural history birds, animals etc. and a few magazines; correspondence solicited.—C. H CARPENTER, Rico Col.

THE LOG FLUME.

An Exciting Place for Amusement in the Sierra Nevada—Dangerous Rides.

Good Company.

At the summit of that cascade in bondage the flume begins. Its track is a trough of heavy planks, converging in an angle like that which is bounded by the two sides of a prism. Down this canal, whose sides are worn very smooth by the gentle yet persistent friction of the water, and the many rubs and knocks of its freightage, the wood, the stream flows sleekly and swiftly, with a motion not dissimilar to the gliding of a snake. As the flume winds the current weaves, this side and that, as if seeking to escape, like the caged power that it is. Unremitting as the endless chain in machinery, untiring as the natural brooks by which it is fed, its capacity for burden is unlimited, and statistics show that this little thread of water transports daily from the mountain top to the valley 500,000 feet of mining timber or 700 cords of wood. At places along its route there are stations of relay, or reinforcement rather, where feeders pour in and compensate for the waste incurred by leakage and overflow. It follows no regular grade, but accommodates itself to the side of the mountain, however steep, and is swift accordingly. What is its rate of speed I do not know; but this I have noticed, that it is so rapid that a horse can not drink from it, for if he turns his head up the hill the torrent fills his nostrils, and facing down stream the water falls away from his mouth, as it did from the lips of the doomed Tantalus.

Venturesome people have sailed down it in boats, but such a voyage has been too much occupied with the safe navigation of their cockle crafts to keep any accurate log of their journey. There is a great deal of sport and not a little danger about this method of going to sea, and so it is a favorite pastime with the men of Lake Tahoe on a Sunday afternoon. Indeed, its reputation as a manly amusement has become more than local, and travelers from abroad feel that their tour has been for naught if they have not consummated their adventures by a ride down the flume. Looking across the valley and seeing the silver filament of water hanging down the mountains, they feel their bosoms thrill with the desire and ambition of a Sam Patch, and would rather forego their swim in Salt Lake or their shot at a buffalo, than to miss this latest episode of American travel.

Persons practiced in the art, those who hold cool heads and the equipoise of accomplished skaters, will step on the floating timbers as they scud by, ride till their heads swim, and then disembark as best they may. Or, more timorous, the pleasure seeker seats himself upon the narrow and uncertain deck of a railroad tie, clings to the same with tenacious hands and feet, and launches himself to his fate. As his speed increases, the spray flies, and his boat wavers and threatens to capsize; he thrusts his arms into the air, and, with frantic gesticulation, endeavors to preserve his balance. A little further on he ships a sea into his boots and instinctively lifts them toward the sky. Now he presents an example of that object so repugnant to natural laws, a very broad body on a very narrow base, and in consequence he is speedily brought to wreck and discomfiture.

Better than these expedients it is to make a boat by nailing two short planks together in a shape like that of the flume, but smaller, so that it will float therein. Tack on a slat as a brace for your feet, lay a short board as a seat, establish yourself thereon, and you have a navicular tobaggan which will bear safely to the end of the groove in which it runs. Take in hand a lath as a balancing wand, unmoor yourself and go. Now you are started, you must continue, at least until you reach some stretch of level ground on which the current slacks its pace. Beware lest you lose your head and topple over to this side or that; you will be sadly bruised and perhaps killed if you do. Beware lest you become frightened and foolish and grasp at the sides of the flume; they are of splintery and unplaned boards, and will tear your hands to pieces. Scylla and Charybdis are very close to you as you ride down the narrow strait, and, moreover, they are as continuous as the journey is long. You will undoubtedly regret with sickness of heart and perhaps sickness of the stomach, that you ever embarked on a cascade 10 miles in length, but bear up. Though it may be distress to you, yet it is good amusement for the men of Lake Tahoe, who, walking patrol along the flume, see you fly by swift as the Flying Dutchman, pale as the phantom of a man dead with sea sickness.

Shipment of Cedar Timber.

New Orleans Democrat.

Some years ago the export of cedar from Louisiana was a large and profitable trade. The war and its consequences diverted the attention of the people from that branch of industry, and our cedar trees were left to grow in all their natural luxuriance. We are glad to note that the old trade in that article is about to be reopened. The United States Consul at Hamburg, in his dispatch to the Depar ment of State, dated September 23, 1879, reports the arrival of a vessel laden with cedar wood, shipped from New Orleans, and cut on the banks of the Mississippi. This is believed to be the first venture of the kind. The Consul sees no reason why the cedar of America may not be in great demand in Europe, like the mahogany of Brazil.

Our Young Folks.

THAT BOY.

GEORGE COOPER.

Is the house turned topsy turvy?
Does it ring from street to roof?
Will the racket still continue,
Spite of all our mild reproof?
Are you often in a flutter?
Are you sometimes thrilled with joy?
Then I have my grave suspicions
That you have at home—that Boy.

Are the walls and tables hammered?
Are your nerves and folk upset?
Have two eyes so bright and roguish
Made you every care forget?
Have your garden beds a prowler,
Who delights but to destroy?
These are well known indications
That you have at home—that Boy.

Have you seen him playing circus—
With his head upon the mat,
And his heels in mid air twinkling—
For his audience, the cat?
Do you ever stop to listen,
When his merry prattle's annoy—
Listen to a voice that whispers
You were once just like—that Boy.

Have you heard of broken windows,
And with nobody to blame?
Have you seen a transcend urchin
Quite unconscious of the same?
Do you have a teasing mixture
Of perplexity and joy?
You may have a dozen daughters,
But I know you've got—that Boy.

A First-Rate Thanksgiving.

BY MRS. M. F. BUTTS.

"Let's have a Thanksgiving of our own, and invite our dolls," said May Gravis to her sister Ellen.

"So we will," answered Ellen: "we will get mamma to let us make little cakes and pies, and we will have cranberry sauce and jelly, and set a beautiful table."

"Shan't we invite anybody but the dolls?"

"Why, of course, cousin Alice and Grace will come to our table; but, May, we must begin right off to get ready, for all the dolls will need new suits; we want them to look the very best on Thanksgiving Day, you know."

"Of course," said May; "we will go to work as soon as we put our room in order. I think we had better make mademoiselle a dress out of that piece of blue silk that Aunt Jenny gave us."

"I think so," said Ellen. "And then the babies, the real little babies, must have new white dresses, and Miss Fanny must have a new polonaise, 'cause she hasn't anything decent, you know."

The children went on chatting while they dusted their pretty bureau, and put everything right in their neat, bright room; then they got out their work baskets, put on their tiny thimbles, and began to work. They sewed, and cut, and clipped—talking and planning all the time, and fitting their dolls as neatly as real dressmakers. At last May said:

"Let's go and ask mamma if we can't go in the kitchen and make some little cakes; I am tired of sewing."

"No," said Ellen, "not now. Mamma is felling bad; her eyes were red when I looked into her room a little while ago, and she bent her head down low so that I couldn't see them."

"Poor mamma!" answered May. "Sometimes I wish papa would go away and never come back."

"O, May, that is a dreadful thing to say! I love papa, and I pray every night that God will help him to be a good man."

"Well, said May, "I have almost stopped loving him; he makes mamma feel so bad; and I don't believe we shall ever have any more first-rate Thanksgivings."

There was a curious sound in the next room just then, but the children didn't notice it, they were taking so earnestly.

"I'm never going to stop loving papa," said Ellen; "and I think we had better begin right off to pray harder for him. May be God will hear us if we ask him over and over, and don't stop."

"Perhaps so," said May. "What a real Thanksgiving we should have if papa would promise never to drink any more, and would be just his own dear old self."

There was another noise in the next room, and presently the outside door closed and somebody went down the walk.

"Why, there's papa now," said Jenny. "I thought he went to the office ever so long ago. How does mademoiselle's train look—is it long enough?"

"It is elegant," said May. "Why, Ellen, you are a regular dressmaker. You and I will set up in business some day and take care of mamma. But there's the lunch bell; we've done a beautiful morning's work, haven't we?"

You will see by the children's talk that Mr Gravis was not a temperance man. More than once during the Autumn months he had been helped home by a friend, because he was too intoxicated to help himself. He was first going down hill, and even little May, his pet, thought she should have to stop loving him.

Everybody in the house was busy getting ready for Thanksgiving, and the days passed away very quickly. But they were sad days, for the mother often had tearful eyes, and the little ones looked wistfully at her as she went about her work. The dolls' dresses were all finished, the dolls' cooking was done, and all things were ready for the feast. It was Thanksgiving morning, and May and Ellen were setting their own little table, when some one came close behind them and caught them both up in a pair of strong arms.

"So you are not going to love your papa any more, little May?"

"O papa! did you hear?" exclaimed both children.

"Yes, every word."

"And were you angry?"

"So angry with myself that I have made up my mind to try once more to deserve the love of my darlings. Keep on praying for me, Ellen!"

"Oh father! dear father!" and four plump, loving arms hugged the repentant man so tightly that there was great danger of his being choked.

"Have you told mamma?" asked Ellen.

Mrs. Graves came in that minute and answered for herself. Her face was covered with smiles and tears, and there was a rainbow in each eye.

"I am afrsid I should have died a drunkard," said Mr. Gravis, "if these little ones hadn't opened my eyes by their innocent talk. After this they shall have a first rate Thanksgiving every year if I can bring it about."

Then the door bell rang and the guests arrived. The beautiful dolls in their grand dresses were put in their places, and the little cousins helped entertain them. May and Jenny kept looking at each other with joyful eyes, and once Jenny whispered, "Didn't God hear me quick?"—*Methodist.*

Meat-Eating Plants.

Have you ever seen the pitcher plant? Very likely you have, for it grows in many parts of the world though it differs very much in the various countries where it is found. If you have seen it, you will remember it's curious shape like a pitcher or urn, with a wonderful lid, which sometimes is open and sometimes is shut; but perhaps you may not have noticed the honey around the mouth of the pitcher, and the liquid appearing to be water, which the plant may have caught from the rain, or which is the secretion of the plant itself.

This water has been said to supply travellers with drink in arid regions where there is nothing else to slake the thirst; but this seems to have been a mistake, as the plant cannot endure drouth and is usually found in bogs or moist places. But this water has its own work to do just where it is found, and if you peep within the pitcher, you will see, it is probable many dead insects, which are to supply the plant with food, for it is a meat-eating plant, and its plan for getting its meat is to catch it in its curious little pitchers.

The insects, attracted by the honey about the pitcher mouth, creep within, and having eaten of the intoxicating sweets, fall into the liquid, which drowns them and decomposes them for the nourishment of the plant, which absorbs their substances from the liquid in the pitcher, so that the plant is not only curious for its shape, but is another proof of the overspreading care of God, who has made everything for use as well as for beauty, and provided for feeding every created thing.

There are other plants fed by insects and they are wonderful enough. One is found growing in the water, and has a little gag near its roots with a spring lid. When any insect touches this strange little lid, it instantly falls downward into the bag, carrying the insect with it, and returns to its place as soon as the insect is secured within. Here the insect is destroyed, serving to nourish the plant, as provided by the Hand which created it.

I will tell you of one more insect trap; it seems like a very cruel plant, but, as it requires the poor little creatures which it catches for food, it is really not cruel at all, but only acting out the part given it to act, and is not like the depraved, wicked hands which catch poor helpless insects to torture them, with no end in view but amusement.

While writing of these insect traps, I am thinking of a very sad Sunday which even to day looks dark and forbidding to me, though so far away, and has always been like a black spot in my memory. I had always been fond of birds and insects, and had never before wounded the smallest thing which God has created, but this day was a dark one. I had been allowed to spend several hours with a neighbor's children who, I am sorry to say, many times forgot that all living things *feel*. Many flies buzzed on the windows when I arrived. Poor things!—before the hour were over, there was scarcely one alive and whole. Four busy, wicked children—we took the poor things apart and forgot entirely who had put them together, and it was not until I had reached home and sat down to think that I realized what I had been doing. I laid my head on a sad enough pillow that night. The sorrow of those dark hours comes up to me now, though at the time I was but five years old.

But about the other insect trap which I mentioned. By this the insects are caught on the plant's odd leaves. These leaves are jointed, or hinged, in the back and are armed with hairs or thorns, each of which contains a sweet globule, attractive to its prey, and so sticky that it is able to hold any small insect which alights upon the leaf. When a fly is caught by one of these, the other hairs in the vicinity turn their globulous points upon the struggling prey and render it more helpless, while the leaf folds together, crushing and smothering it. Then the leaf pours out a gummy fluid which dissolves the insect, and as it absorbs the fluid, leaving the leaf dry again to open and catch more insects, it is but reasonable to suppose that the plant is nourished by the prey it swallows, and that its wonderful leaves are but new proofs of the Father's care of each thing he has created, and the provisions made for every work of his hand.—*George Klingle.*

A RAILROAD ON VESUVIUS.

Ascending to the Crater by a Rope Railway in Seven Minutes.

A Rome correspondent of the *Pilot* writes: At last, after many years' expectation, the traveler in Italy who feels it part of his duty to ascend Vesuvius,

The Farm.

In this Department we cordially invite queries of all kinds, and also short communications on all agricultural topics, brief crop reports, etc. All communications should be written legibly and on one side of the paper only, and never on the same sheet with subscription letters. The full name and address should in all cases accompany each letter.

Still Onward.

The rise in the prices of farm products during the past few months, while adding greatly to the aggregate wealth of the farmers of the country, has put a vast deal of money into the pocket of speculators who never worked a day in their lives, and many of whom look impudently upon the class by whose toils they profit. A fair knowledge of the prices of farm products in the chief markets of the country, coupled with an acquaintance with the prospective relation of supply and demand, would have saved to our industrious farmers no small proportion of the sums that have thus found their way into the coffers of middlemen and speculators.

It is the duty of those who have the interests of agriculture at heart, not merely to spread about a knowledge of the best principles and practices of farming, but also to place before their friends the correctest attainable information by which they may be enabled to market their crops to the best advantage, for there is often as much profit made by selling produce wisely as by raising well.

It was this motive that led us to secure the multitude of reports of crops and prices that have appeared weekly in the *Blade*, and particularly in our special numbers, such as the Corn Number. For the same reason, also, we have from time to time given to our friends the results of our careful reviews of the most trustworthy calculations as to the crops and prices in every country whose products come into competition with our own. More deeply impressed than ever with the importance of this sort of information, by the current season's experience, we have resolved to place weekly before our readers, in future, correct reports of the prices of farm products in the chief markets of the country, as telegraphed down to the latest possible moment before the paper goes to press. In connection with these reports, special attention will be given to summarizing all information with regard to the condition and prices of crops in other countries in so far as they may be likely to affect our farmers profits from their products. Any other circumstances, also, foreign or domestic, that may bear on the same subject, will be duly noted whenever it comes to our knowledge.

By means of the various reports, each of our readers everywhere, or pretty nearly everywhere, will be able to see at a glance the condition of the market at the collecting center to which his district is tributary, and to compare the prices there with those at other centers; while a remembrance of the accompanying week-by-week notes with regard to crops, markets, prospects, etc., elsewhere, will help him materially towards deciding intelligently as to the advisability of holding on to his products or marketing them at once and sometimes, also, as to what prospective crop is likely to pay best. Thus each of our friends may justly take our own motto, STILL ONWARD.—*Rural New Yorker.*

Cultivate Orchards.

In the cultivation of fruit trees in the West, it is often observed that trees continue to grow year after year, but do not bear. Thus apple orchards will become often 15 years old before bearing, and, in fact, many of them never bear good crops. Just how to obviate this difficulty is a problem that has exercised the ingenuity of our best cultivators all over the West, and the reason why no conclusions have been arrived at by our best pomologists, and that will be generally applicable, is that, as a rule, the conditions necessary to success are as varying as the localities, soils and other minor integers surrounding each orchard planted

Shall we then neglect to plant orchards? By no means. But say many, there is no money in fruit. The markets are glutted except at certain seasons. True enough, this should not prevent any farmer from planting an orchard on the best site near his house possible, or if the situation is not adapted to fruit, make it so, so far as circumstances will allow. It is true it is better that the soil be dry to a good depth. If it true that orchard trees of no kind will do well on a soil in which the water stands near the surface of the ground. It is as true, however, that there are few farm houses in the West, where by proper means, the drainage may not be accomplished to the depth of at least four feet from the surface. This will do well for all fruits except the pear, and the cultivation of this fruit in the West is not successful except in confined and widely separated localities. The same may be said of sweet cherries. Plums are difficult of cultivation, principally from the attacks of the curculio. The Northwest is not, of course, adapted to peaches; aside from these, however, every farmer should have other fruits in abundance, and to spare in good seasons, and if carefully attended to, there will be hardly a year without a fair supply of fruit.

There is one thing that too many farmers forget in this connection. That is, all the fruit gathered for family use is worth just the price asked for it by the village grocer. It is true that many farmers who will not attend to their orchard and vineyard do not have fruit, and will not buy enough for a fair supply. The objection made is, it costs too much. They have set out trees expecting them to take care of themselves and bear annual crops. This trees will not do for the best pomologists. Why should they do it for the farmer? Others complain that it takes too much time to care for them. The same complaint is made of the vegetable garden. Precisely the same course of reasoning might apply to every crop on the farm. No crop takes care of itself and pays. Farmers in the West have become so used to suppose that they must run over large areas to get money out of crops that many cannot understand how the cultivation of a single acre in fruit and vegetables may produce half the support of a family so far as the table is concerned. Yet such is the fact, and the sooner it is better known how to accomplish this, the better it will be not only for the head of the household, but for the rising generation.—*Prairie Farmer.*

Sorgum Sugar.

Dr. Collyer, Chemist at the Department of Agriculture at Washington in an interview is reported as saying in referring to experiments made there, on corn and sorgum sugar:

"If Congress will give me 10 acres of ground to experiment on next season, I will return 20 tons of raw sorghum sugar fully equal to the best raw cane sugar or forfeit my reputation; that is, two tons to the acre, and is a much better result than they reach on the average in Louisiana with the sugar cane. The corn of Illinois, for example, said Dr. Collyer, is worth about $75,000,000 annually. If they will devote one-tenth of the acreage to sorghum, of the variety best suited to that latitude, they can raise sugar in amount equal to our whole annual importation, which is about $100,000,000 worth, and even this will only equal 50 per cent. of the most favorable of my experiments."

In relation to the so-called secret he says: "Now that the method of crystallization is understood, it is simply in the time to gather the corn, and in this respect my experiments are complete and conclusive." He believes that the total cost of making the sugar need not exceed three cents per pound. That raw sugar now cost a fraction more than six cents per pound, about 45 per cent. of which is for duties. He believed that we can raise sorghum sugar cheaper than we can buy abroad, and we presume that no one who has entered into the manufacture systematically, and intelligently, upon soils adapted to the crop, will doubt this. In respect to the area adapted to the cultivation of sorghum and varieties, he truly says: "All through the central belt of the States and well into the North and South, sorghum can be grown with ease. He would not send the early amber to South Carolina, but would select a variety adapted to that climate. The advantage of the early amber, from which success in Illinois has resulted, is that it matures before the season gets too far past. In Louisiana, he says, 'it takes nine and sometimes 12 months' close attention to the sugar-cane crop to bring it to a success, and that the cane is not indigenous to Louisiana, but is an exotic."

It is hoped that Congress may take such steps as may seem necessary to develop this industry. It would be well, however, in all this, that the department pursue the investigation without reference to the foisting of any individual patent mixture on the public. The department chemist ought to be able to say, from his own standpoint, what is necessary, probably will, if allowed so to do. —*Prairie Farmer.*

Overflowing Produce.

Never before within our recollection has this fair country occupied so resplendent a position in the commerce of the civilized world as during the year that is now fast drawing to a close. In that period short crops in most of the leading countries of the Old World precipitated the danger of famine, which was only provided against by the abundant crops of the United States. All the demands for food products that Europe and Asia have made upon us have been grandly responded to, and while the golden results of these enormous exportations have already rolled in upon us in a cash payment of over $60,000,000, all our granaries and warehouses are teeming with the prodigious glut of food products that have accumulated on hand because of sheer inability to procure vessels enough to carry away to the distant markets of the Old World the surplus not needed for the sustenance of our own people.

The balance of trade in favor of the United States reaches the enormous sum of $280,000,000 a year; and this strain upon the resources of Europe is now rendered the more severe by the important fact that in the few years that have elapsed since the tide of commerce changed, the aggregate balance in our favor has risen to the tremendous sum of $700,000,000. We do not ask, how we are to procure ships to carry away our immense surplus produce; nor, how are the people of Europe to pay us for the immense balance in our favor, nor how shall we increase the consumption of foreign goods to make the compensation for our exports easier? Questions of this kind never appeared to trouble the people of Europe during the ten years when the balance was draining us of all our gold and silver and plunging us into a fathomless abyss of debt.

Our country was advised continuously to become chiefly agricultural, and no one can say that the advice was disregarded. The results speak for themselves. Our agriculture has risen to such proportions that it can meet all demands that may be made upon it, however vast they may be. The ordeal of the present year shows this conclusively; for after all the foreign demands shall have been satisfied our country will still have a large surplus on hand to carry us through to the next season.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

Winter Walks About the Premises.

As the storm king may soon be expected to visit us to stay for some months we are inclined to repeat the advice we have hitherto given at this period, when so many farmers in all sections are in the habit of neglecting matters that require but little time and money about their dwellings and out buildings, but which impart in themselves great comfort and protection to their families. Among them there is nothing that adds more, not merely to the comfort and convenience, but to the health of the family, than *good walks*. We have known these in many instances to be utterly neglected. They are regarded as good enough when the weather is dry, and when the weather is wet they cannot be made better. And thus year after year the members of the family are left to walk through mud to the cow stables, hog pens wood or coal shed, to the pump or spring house, to the place of drying the wash, and so on. Now, the little labor it would cost to make hard dry paths to all these points is not worth mentioning. About every place there are stones, old mortar, bricks &c., which could be laid down in an excavation of six inches and covered with coal ashes. This would last for a dozen years, and would always be dry in five minutes after a rain. Or, in lieu of this, lay down board walks, which, if taken up in the spring after the wea her is settled and carefully piled up, will last from eight to 10 years.

Try it. It will save in shoe leather and doctors' bill four times as much as the cost, leaving out of the question the great convenience and comfort enjoyed. —*Germantown Telegraph.*

The Sugar Crop.

In relation to the sugar crop in France it is now definitely stated according to the *Journal des Faboranter des Sair* that the deficit in the French beet sugar crop will be from 25 to 50 per cent. less than usual, and that the working of the crop will end with December. In Austria the yield is expected to be equal to that of last year, in which that Empire will be lucky, since the prices of sugars are constantly advancing. The deficit in the European sugar (beet sugar which is almost one third of the sugar manufactured annually in the world) crop will be about 100 tons. The revolutionary movements in Cuba have placed that island—the great sugar-producing region—at sea. Where it will end no one can tell, but the deficit would seem to point to the fact that sugars will be high, and in that case economy in consumption will be in order.

Mark Lane Express Report.

LONDON, Nov. 25.—The Mark Lane Express says: "Fortunately wheat sowing made fair progress before the frost set in, and it will proceed still faster if the weather ameliorates. However, in some instances, it is feared that further prospects are jeopardied by the badness of seed wheat, really good samples of which are exceedingly scarce. The operations in Scotland are more backward, but if the weather remains propitious for another fortnight a fair area will be sown. The harvest is now completed in the later districts of Scotland, but the results are unsatisfactory.

In England the home crop is arriving more freely at country markets, but its condition continues unsatisfactory. The provincial trade was dull. Wheat declined a shilling per quarter in many of the important centres. In London the imports of foreign wheat were again unusually heavy, the supplies from Monday to Friday having been 87,280 quarters. A large proportion of the imports were from Russia, and these may yet be prolonged if the weather continues mild, as no definite news of the closing of the Baltic ports has been received. The future course of prices, however, depends on the action of America alone. The gigantic visible supply falters trade, of course. The large imports now arriving are considerably in excess of present requirements, but notwithstanding surface fluctuations the outlook for holders is decidedly hopeful.

The stoppage of Russian supplies may very probably turn the scale in sellers' favor. Very little business was done during the past week. Wheat ex ship was pressed for sale, to avoid landing expenses, and declined about one shilling. The arrivals at ports of call have been moderate. There was a fair demand for wheat off the coast, and a good many cargos were sold both for the Continent and the United Kingdom, an improvement of prices, the decline of the early part of the week being fully recovered. Maize was slightly lower, but the demand was somewhat of an improvement. There was very little business done in forwarding wheat, owing to the higher prices asked in America. Re sellers offered very sparingly, but there have been some sales of red winter on passage at 53 shillings 6d, 53s 9d, and at 55s for December and January shipments.

The imports into the United Kingdom for the week ending were 159,210,944 hundred weight of wheat and 301,035 hundred weight of flour.

INTERNAL REVENUE.

Annual Report of the Commissioners.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 25.—The annual report of the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue, which has just been completed, predicts that the receipts from the internal revenue taxes will, during the present fiscal year, reach the sum of $115,000,000. During the last three years 3117 illicit distilleries have been seized. In order to provide an ample force to suppress illicit distilling Gen. Raum recommends an appropriation of $100,000 as a deficiency to be used during the present fiscal year. During the year ended June 30, 1879, $113,449,621 internal revenue taxes were collected and paid into the treasury. The receipts from distilled spirits for the year 1879 as compared with 1878 shows an increase of $2,149,468 as compared with 1878. The increase of the production of manufactured tobacco the last fiscal year was 12,026,821 pounds. Of cigars and cigarettes 154,177,019.

THE KILLED AND WOUNDED.

Six thousand three hundred and sixty-three persons have been arrested for illicit distilling, and 27 officers and employes killed, and 42 wounded while engaged in enforcing internal revenue laws. In this connection the Commissioner says: It is clear to my mind that in some portions of the country for a considerable time to come reliance cannot be placed upon State Courts for punishing citizens who commit murder or assaults to murder upon our officers while engaged in the performance of their duties. It seems to me of the utmost importance that the United States should, under its own laws and through its own courts, undertake the trial and punishment of persons who are

GUILTY OF MURDER

and assault to murder officers while engaged in or on account of the performance of their official duties, and I have the honor of renewing the recommendation made in my last report of the passage of such a law by Congress.

The following figures show the increase or decrease as to the various kinds of spirits exported in the year 1879 as compared with 1878:

STATISTICAL.

	Gallons.
Increase in alcohol exported	8,879,350
Increase in rum exported	430,490
Increase in Bourbon whisky exported	6,375
Increase in pure, neutral or cologne spirits	37,685
Increase in miscellaneous	1,229
Total increase	9,354,989
Decrease in rye whisky	9,787
Decrease in corn whisky	1,125
Decrease in high wines	5,748
Total decrease	16,660
Net increase	9,338,329

As the principal increased demand for American spirits has been in these foreign ports in which they are best known, and as they have during the years '78 and '79, become known in all parts of the world, it is anticipated that the exportations of such spirits during the current fiscal year will be still greater than those made during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1879.

TOBACCO AND SNUFF.

During the four months of the present fiscal year the decrease in receipts from tobacco and snuff as compared with the corresponding period of last year was $2,306,599. These figures indicate a reduction for the year in receipts from this source of $7,000,000. The increasing prosperity of the country which has given so favorable an impulse to all business has largely benefited the tobacco trade, and receipts have in consequence not suffered so heavily as anticipated. Experience has shown that no material advantage has inured to consumers in a reduction of price by reason of a reduction of tax. During the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1879, there were imported and withdrawn for consumption 40,666,558 cigars. The total amount of domestic leaf tobacco accounted for during the fiscal year is 522,514,474 pounds as follows:

	Pounds.
Manufactured in the United States	200,233,904
Exported leaf	322,279,510
Imported leaf manufactured in the United States	6,221,882

SNUFF.

The amount of manufactured snuff and tobacco removed from bond during the fiscal year 1079 for exportation was 16,126,197 pounds, being an increase over the previous year of 453,207 pounds, and the number of cigars and cigarettes removed for exportation was 22,537,050.

The total amount of collections from tobacco in all its forms, including the internal revenue tax on imported tobacco, snuff and cigars, and special taxes paid by manufacturers of and dealers in leaf and manufactured tobacco, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1879, was $40,136,002. As compared with the total receipts from the same source for the preceding fiscal year, this shows an increase of $43,247. The total

COST OF COLLECTING

revenue for the year was $4,206,830, being 3 7-10ths per cent. upon the amount collected. An accompanying report is a detailed statement showing the amount collected in each District, from which it appears that the largest amount was collected in the First Ohio District, $10,833,458. The First Illinois contributed $8,270,948, the Fifth Illinois, $6,930,170. The smallest amount of $4,020 was collected in the Third Texas District. During the past three fiscal years $443,099,000 of Internal Revenue taxes were collected and paid into the Treasury. The average cost of collection including salaries and expenses of the International Revenue Bureau was 2½ per cent.

ILLICIT DISTILLERIES.

During the fiscal year from June 30 to November 1, 1879, 1,318 illicit stills were seized, 2,924 persons arrested, and in the performance of these duties five officers and guides were killed and 23 wounded. During this period 56 officers and employes were proceeded against in State Courts. The total number of such prosecutions in the past three years has been 165. The Commissioner says: "I am of the opinion that very nearly, if not quite all these prosecutions are without probable cause, and are instituted as a means of obstructing the enforcement of laws, and these facts afford additional evidence of the difficulty in the way of collecting internal revenue."

CANONCHET.

Suit of Prof. Linck Against Mrs. Kate Chase Sprague.

NEW YORK, Nov. 26.—The court room was filled with people to-day when the suit of George Linck against Mrs. Kate Sprague was called. Linck was tutor for Mrs. Sprague's child, Willie at the time of the recent troubles at Cononchet in which Sen. Conkling figured and sues for $240 salary and expenses in carrying out his engagement as tutor. The answer of defendant to the complaint sets up that the agreement with Linck was made in her capacity as a married woman and that therefore her husband is responsible for the debt, not her, and that Gov. Sprague had full knowledge of the engagement made with Linck. The case came up to-day, on the notice of a motion by the counsel for Mrs. Sprague for the counsel for Linck to show by what means he expects to evade the bar of the married woman act. In the course of the argument a letter was read from Mrs. Sprague to Linck, to show that she considered him in her employ; and the counsel added, "The Professor made his exit from the Sprague mansion at the end of a shotgun." The Judge took the papers and reserved his decision.

Got the Shell.

New York Sun.

The State count seems to show that Horatio Seymour, jr., is elected, and that with this exception the Republicans have got the oyster, while Gov. Robinson and Controller Kelly have each got a shell.

TERRIBLE TORNADO.

Louisville Visited by a Whirlwind Extraordinary.

Great Damage Done Wherever It Passed--A Whole Street Almost Laid in Ruins.

LOUISVILLE, Nov. 28.—A fearful tornado played havoc in the southeastern portions of the city this morning. Those who saw it say that one immense black cloud came up from the southwest at four minutes past 6 o'clock. It was a black and gloomy spectable; as it neared the city it was seen to be revolving at a fearful rate. Directly a deluge of rain began to fall, lit up by ared electric light.

It seemed, say those who witnessed it, that the world was coming to an end, and doubtless people in the track pursued by the whirlwind, truly though so. It struck the City at the far end of Fourth street, Rev. Stuart Robison's house being one of the first to suffer. Thence it continued in a northeastern direction, leaving the City at Cave Hill.

The South fence of Central Park is all blown down. The old Louisville base ball park is completely riddled; not the least portion of the fence standing except half of the East side. The roof of the grand stand is smashed into kindling wood and blown away. The grounds and street are strewn with broken boards and timbers.

Dr. Stuart Robinson's house is slightly damaged, about a third of the tin roof being blown off. M. S. Fishback's carpet beating establishment on Third street was completely demolished. The building was frame, and nothing is now standing but the foundation. The loss is $700.

The suburbs known as Brownstown is badly damaged; roofs, windows, fences, and trees generally suffered. Alfred Lewis's brick house on Third street had the roof blown off the side of Phil. Belmer's house was shivered; Tompkins' ice house, between Second and Third, had the roof torn off and generally mashed. The next place to suffer was the Laval Crystal Spring Distillery, at the end of First street. Here the wind from across the commons had full sweep, and great damage was done. The new brick warehouse was completely blown down—not a brick being left standing of the south and west walls. The warehouse contained 300 barrels of whisky, only three of which were destroyed. The tin roof of the warehouse was blown off and torn into fragments like so much paper. Portions of it were carried into a field a quarter of a mile away. The main distillery building, which is of frame, was also damaged slightly. The chimneys blown down and roof injured. The total loss to the distillery will reach $500.

F. Morot, a florist on First and Orms by avenues, suffered badly, the roof being torn from his house and one of his conservatories greatly damaged. From here the tornado seemed to take a leap to Mechanic street, between Preston and Shelby, and here it was in its fiercest fury. There is hardly a house on the street named that is not more or less damaged. The street is covered with shingles and broken boards. Adam Schuster's two story brick had the roof carried off and several windows blown in. The West Side is badly damaged.

About Cave Hill there was much damage done to the monuments and shrubbery houses in the vicinity. The three story grocery of John Hoffman had the roof lifted, walls cracked, and the water was driven into the building. The loss was about $150. The residence of Mr. W. B. Fleming on East Broadway which was about half finished was badly shattered, involving a loss of several hundred dollars. At Barthel's Garden the fences were prostrated and trees were blown down. At A. Lauer's nursery the fences were blown down and all the green-houses more or less damaged. The large new green-house on Broadway suffered most, the wind striking the glass and crushing nearly all of it.

Cave Hill Cemetery suffered severely, the tornado at this point appearing to have been exceedingly vicious. The immense solid stone gateway was tossed down and broken to pieces. Two thirds of it is a complete wreck, the stones being so badly broken that they cannot be used again. It will cost about $400 to restore the entrance. Inside the cemetery looks as though it had been cannonaded. A large number of trees and shrubs were blown down and many monuments were razed to the ground.

In the southeastern suburb of Germantown there was wide spread harm done. The tin sheeting of the grocery of Blassford & Company at the north corner of Preston and Broadway, was torn off, a portion of it being carried across the street. A building at the corner of Second and Guthrie streets next was served in a similar manner. On Third street road about five miles from the City, the storm was very severe.

SUGAR GROWING.

Illinois Alone Capable of Raising all the Sugar this Whole Country can Consume.

New York Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—Dr. Collyer, the Chemist of the Agricultural Department, is the least imaginative of men. When the Commissioner talks in millions the Chemist uses fractions and percentages. He takes nothing for granted, and expresses opinions as opinions only, and never as accomplished facts.

He said to-day that he had read the dispatch printed in the *Tribune* of Friday in regard to sugar raising, and was wondering how it is that people are so hard to be convinced. "If they will give me," said he, "10 acres of ground to experiment on next season I will return 20 tons of raw sorghum sugar, fully equal to the best raw cane sugar, or forfeit my reputation. That is two tons to the acre, and is a much better result than they reach on the average in Louisiana with the sugar cane.

"The corn crop of Illinois, for example," said Dr. Collyer, is worth about $75,000,000 annually. If they will devote one tenth of the acreage to sorghum of the variety best suited to the latitude, they can raise sugar in amount equal to our whole annual importation, which is about $100,000,000 worth, and even this will only equal 50 per cent. of the most favorable of my experiments. The secret, now, that the method of crystalization is understood, lies simply in time to gather the crop, and in this respect my experiments are complete and conclusive."

"What is the total cost of prod uction, doctor?"

"Well, on that point I cannot speak so confidently; but I see no reason why it should exceed three cents per pound. Raw sugars now cost a fraction more than six cents a pound, but about 45 per cent. of that is for duties. We can certainly raise sugar from sorgum much cheaper than we can buy it abroad."

"How about the extent of territory adapted to the growth of sorghum?"

"There is a great advantage. All through this central belt of States, and well into the North and South, sorgum can be grown with ease. I would not, for example, send the Early Amber to South Carolina, but would select a variety adapted to that climate. The advantage of the Early Amber, which is the species from which the success of Illinois has been gained, is that it matures before the season gets too far past. In Louisiana, you know, it takes nine and sometimes twelve months of close attention to the sugar cane crop to bring it to a success. The cane, any way, is not indigenous to Louisiana, but it is an exotic."

Altogether Too Deliberate.

New York Mail.

A man who requires a period of several years to prove that he has not defrauded the Government out of an income tax is just the character to be honored with the Presidency.

THE NICARAGUAN CANAL.

Gen. Grant Offered the Presidency of the Company.

He Has Intimated that He Would Accept, if the Position Would be Permanent, which There are Assurances It Would Be--An Acceptance that Would Dispose of the Third Term Spook.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—M. De Francho reached Washington last night for the purpose of consulting with Admiral Ammen and others concerning the contemplated Nicaraguan canal project. De Francho represents the European stockholders, and about $30,000,000 of money, which, he says, can be increased to double that amount if necessary. He said to-day that the offer of the Presidency of the contemplated Nicaraguan Canal Company had been made to Gen. Grant, and would probably be accepted by him.

Upon being asked what bearing this action would have on Gen. Grant's political future, M. De Francho replied substantially as follows: "It will take Gen. Grant permanantly out of politics. He has been offered the Presidency of our company with the understanding that he will hold the office until the object of the company is attained. If, in the meantime, he is offered the nomination by any political party for the Presidency, he will decline it, because otherwise he would be acting in bad faith to those who have invested their money in the enterprise on the understanding that he would be its head and influence."

Being asked if Gen. Grant understood this, Mr. De Francho said he did, and said that it was under these conditions that he would accept the office. Gen. Grant had written them that he would accept the Presidency of the Canal Company, provided he could be satisfied that it was established on a business basis and would be able to finish satisfactorily the work undertaken.

He would meet representatives of the company and other friends of the project in Philadelphia in the middle of December, and then the final arrangements would be made.

This expression on the part of De Francho will possibly be regarded as having a very important bearing on the question of Gen. Grant's candidature.

If De Francho and those whom he represents are not deceived, it means that if the French company can show that they are in earnest, that Gen. Grant is no longer a Presidential candidate, because he has already written them to the effect, as De Francho understands it, that on the conditions named and with the understanding that he will continue as President of the company, he would identify himself with the fortunes of the company.

In the course of the conversation M. De Francho said that this was the only sensible thing for Gen. Grant to do. "He could," said DeFrancho, "gain no further political prestige by running a third time for President. He could probably say that he could have had the nomination, had he desired it and worked for it, and whatever glory attaches to that will be his. Now, then, the position we offer him," continued De Francho, "is one of vast responsibility, of care, distinction, and of great wealth, and will probably last him all his lifetime, or for a long series of years. He will make as much money for many years as he would for four years in the Presidency. He would be constantly before the world in a very honorable and influential character, and he would go down to posterity with a double immortality—first, his political fame as President and General, and, second, as the inspiring principal and director of a great international project."

NEW POSTAL CARDS.

A Two-cent Variety to go to Foreign Countries--Americans Fond o Correspondence with Cards.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—The Post-office Department has made arrangements to place International Postal Cards on sale on the 1st of December. The price of the cards will be two cents, and they may be used without addition postage to any country which is a member of the Postal Union. The cards are printed in blue, but in other respects they are similar in appearance to the cards now in local use.

The entire revenue derived from the sale of these cards forms a part of the postal revenues of this country. The latest reports from various offices indicate that about twice as many postal cards are mailed to foreign countries from the United States as come hither from abroad. This indicates that this feature of the international postal arrangements is working directly to the profit of the United States in the way of revenue.

Hitherto the sender of a postal card to a foreign country has been under the necessity of affixing an additional one cent stamp.

ALMOST A RIOT.

Government will Remove the Trial of the Prisoners to Dublin.

SLIGO, Nov. 26.—The town was on the verge of a riot last night, and the police had to clear the streets. They were stoned and made several arrests. Davitt was serenaded by two bands. The police paraded the streets. This morning further reinforcements have arrived. No fresh disturbances have occurred. It is though that the Government intends to remove the trials of the prisoners to Dublin, instead of taking them to the County assizes. A larger number of Magistrates are on the bench to-day than hitherto. The Killens examination is proceeding. Davitt and Daly are present as spectators. Davitt has telegraphed Newcastle that he will keep his engagement to speak there Sunday and Monday, and will attend a monster meeting at Glasgow.

English Propriety.

Richard Grant White in November Atlantic.

The god of English social life next in dignity to mammon is propriety. Now propriety rightly worshiped is a very good god, his very rites are sweetness, order, decency, and in their practice they involve that consideration for others which is the highest form of morality, and even of piety. But the British Philistine (and all England is more or less given over to Philistinism, which invades the very social regions in which it is most dreaded and decried) makes propriety a Moloch, before whom he prostrates himself, and before whom he often makes his very children sacrifice some of the beauty of their youthful lives. The highest social aim, the greatest social law, to this sort of Englishman is to do the correct thing. Having attained this, he feels that he has absolved himself of every social duty, and clothed his soul in panoply of proof. Whether the correct thing be really the right thing, he does not know, does not seek to know. That so it has been and that so it is, are for him both logic and religion. In his mouth the greatest reproach is "unprecedented;" the mere statement of the fact that an act has not been done before, that a word has not been spoken before, being to him its condemnation. Wherefore he lives his life surrounded by dead, shriveled forms, eyeless, brainless bloodless, whose only voice is from the grave of a dead past. If he breaks away from this oppression, he is likely to run into extremes which violate all decency, all decorum, all propriety. Freed from his accustomed restraint, he is apt to add a grossness to vice which makes it more hideous, if not more harmful.

Bring Out Washburn.

Philadelphia Record (Ind. Dem.)

Ex-Minister Washburn, of Illinois, is reported to be for Grant. Why is there no "boom" for Washburne? The Republicans could nowhere find a better man, and, with the exception perhaps of Sen. Edmunds, of Vermont, he is less objectionable than any other prominent Republican who could be named.

INGERSOLL.

A Racy Political Talk by Col. Robert G. Ingersoll.

He Thinks Grant Can Afford to Treat the Presidency as a Broken Toy—Says that Hendricks Has "A Geographical Position" Which Makes Him a Necessity to the Democracy—And Remarks that Bayard is Not Good Enough to be Popular, Nor Bad Enough to be Famous.

Indianapolis Journal, Nov. 17.

Col. Robert G. Ingersoll yesterday afternoon incautiously sauntered into the *Journal* editorial rooms, and was at once corraled for an interview. The Colonel was in excellent humor, and evidently no disinclined to talk, for he opened the conversation himself. Looking at an engraved likeness of the late O. P. Morton, which had been handed to him, he remarked:

"I think Morton had the best intellectual grip on a question of any man I ever saw."

"Some people have made comparisons between Morton and Chandler," suggested the interviewer.

"There was an infinite difference between the two men. Morton's strength lay in proving a thing; Chandler's in asserting it. But Chandler was a strong man, and no hypocrite."

"What are your ideas of Grant, and his position before the people?"

"My ides is that Grant can afford to regard the Presidency as

A BROKEN TOY.

It would not add to his fame if he were again elected, and would add nothing to the debt of gratitude which the people feel they owe him. He is regarded universally as the hero of the war, and I think it is really his genius that almost gave us the victory. I don't think his reputation can ever be as great in any direction as in the direction of war. He has made his great reputation and has lived his great life. I regard him confessedly as the best soldier the Anglo Saxon blood has produced. I don't know that it necessarily follows that because he is a great soldier he is great in other directions. Probably some of the greatest statesmen of the world would have made the worst soldiers."

"Do you regard him as more popular now than ever before?"

"I think that his reputation is, certainly,"

GREATER AND HIGHER

than when he left the Presidency, and mainly because he has represented this country with so much discretion and with such quiet poised dignity all around the world. He has measured himself with Kings, and was able to look over the heads of every devlish one of them. They were not quite as tall as he was, even adding the crown to their original hight. I think he represented us abroad with wonderful success. One thing that touched me very much was that at a reception given him by the workingmen of Birmingham, after he had been received by Royalty, he had the courage to say that that reception gave him more pleasure than any other. He has been throughout perfec ly true to the genius of our institutions, and has not upon any occasion exhibited the slightest badyism. Grant is a man who is not greatly affected by either flattery or abuse."

"What do you believe to be his position in regard to the Presidency?"

"My own judgment is, that

HE DON'T CARE.

I don't think he has any enemies to punish, and I think that while he was President he certainly rewarded most of his friends."

"What are your views as to a third term?"

"I have no objection to a third term on principle, but so many men want the Presidency, that it seems almost cruel to give a third term to any one."

"Then, if there is no objection to a third term, what about a fourth?"

"I don't know that that could be objected to, either. We have got to admit, after all, that the American people, or at least a majority of them, have a right to elect one man as often as they please. Personally, I think it should not be done unless in case of a man who is prominent above the rest of his fellow-citizens, and whose election appears absolutely necessary. But I frankly confess that I cannot conceive of any political situation where one man is a necessity. I do not believe in the one-man on horseback idea, because I believe in all the people being on horseback."

"How do you like the administration of

PRESIDENT HAYES?"

"I think its attitude has greatly improved of late. There are certain games of cards—pedro, for instance—where you cannot only fail to make something, but be set back. I think that Hayes' vetomessages very nearly got him back to the commencement of the game—that he is now almost ready to commence counting, and make some points. His position before the country has greatly improved, but he will not develop into a dark horse. My preference is, of course, still for Blaine."

"Where do you think it is necessary the Republican candidate should come from to insure success?"

"Somewhere out of Ohio. I think it will go to Maine, and for this reason: first of all, Blaine is certainly a competent man of affairs, a man who knows what to do at the time, and then he has acted in such a chivalric way ever since the Convention at Cincinnati that those who opposed him most bitterly now have for him nothing but admiration. I think John Sherman is a man of decided ability, but I don't believe the American people would make one brother President while the other is General of the Army. It would be giving too much power to one family."

"What are your conclusions as to the future of the Democratic party?"

I think the Democratic party

OUGHT TO DISBAND.

I think they would be a great deal stronger disbanded, because they would get rid of their reputation without decreasing."

"But if they won't disband?"

"Then the next campaign depends undoubtedly upon New York and Indiana. I do not see how they can very well help nominating a man from Indiana and by that I mean Hendricks. You see the South has 138 votes, all supposed to be Democratic; with the 35 from New York and 15 from Indiana, they would have just three to spare. Now I take it that the 15 from Indiana are just about as essential as the 35 from New York. To lack 15 votes is nearly as bad as being 25 short, and, so far as drawing salary is concerned, it is quite as bad. Mr. Hendricks ought to know that he holds the key to Indiana, and that there can't be any possibility of carrying this State for the Democracy without him. He has tried running for the Vice Presidency, which is not much of a place anyhow,—I'd about as soon be vice-mother-in-law,—and my judgment is that he knows exactly

THE VALUE OF HIS GEOGRAPICAL POSITION.

New York is divided to that degree that it would be unsafe to take a candidate from that State; and, besides, New York has become famous for furnishing defeated canditates for the Democracy. I think the man must come from Indiana.

"Would the Democracy of New York unite on Seymour?"

"You recollect what Lincoln said about the powder that had been shot off once. I do not remember any man who has once made the race for the Presidency and been defeated ever being again nominated."

"What will be the effect of the enthusiastic receptions that are being given to Gen. Grant?"

"I think these ovations show that the people are resolved not to lose the results of the great victories of the war, and that they make known this determination by their attentions to Gen. Grant. I think that, if he goes through the principal Cities of this country, the old spirit will be revived everywhere; and, whether it make him President or not, the result will be to

MAKE THE ELECTION GO REPUBLICAN.

The revival of the memories of the war will bring the people of the North together as closely as at any time since that great conflict closed,—not in the spirit of hatred, or malice or envy, but in generous emulation to preserve that which was fairly won. I don't think there is any hatred about it, but we are beginning to see that we must save the South ourselves, and that that is the only way we can save the Nation."

"But suppose they give the same receptions in the South?"

"So much the better."

"Is there any split in the solid South?"

"Some of the very best people in the South are apparently disgusted with following the Democracy any longer, and would hail with delight any opportunity they could reasonably take advantage of to leave the organization, if they could do so without making it appear that they were going back on Southern interests, and this opportunity will come when the South becomes enlightened and sees that it has no interests except in common with the whole country. That I think they are beginning to see."

"What about

BAYARD AND HANCOCK

as candidates?"

"I don't see how Bayard could possibly carry Indiana, while his own State is too small and too solidly Democratic. My idea of Bayard is, that he has not been good enough to be popular, and not bad enough to be famous. As to Gen. Hancock, you may set it down as certain that the South will never lend their aid to elect a man who helped to put down the Rebellion. It would be just the same as the effort to elect Greeley. It can't be done. I see, by the way, that I am reported as having said that David Davis, as the Democratic candidate, would carry Illinois. I did say that in 1876 he could have carried it against Hayes; but whether he could carry Illinois in 1880 would depend altogether upon who runs against him. The condition of things has changed greatly in our favor since 1876."

ALFONSO'S BETROTHAL.

The Royal Mode—The Formia Reception of the Spanish Envoy.

Vienna Dispatch to the Paris Figaro.

At 2 o'clock to day the Emperor received the Duke de Bailen in solemn audience, the ceremonial adopted being that followed on the delivery of credentials by Ambassadors. Three state carriages, drawn by white horses were sent to the Imperial Hotel to convey the Duke and the members of the commission. In the first rode the Spanish military attaches, Maj. Blazn wearing the uniform of the officers of the King's escort; Capt. Quesada, of the Pavia Hussars, and Lieut. Angulo. In the second were the secretaries of the embassy, MM. Creus, Baguer and Perojo, and the attaches, MM. Matheus and Ontell. Gen. Duke de Bailen and Prince Odescalchi, the Austrian Chamberlain, were in the third. The General wore the uniform of his regiment, the Numantia Lancers, with the Grand Cordon of the Order of Charles III. and the badge of the military Order of St. Hermenegilde.

On the arrival of the cortege at the palace the honors were rendered by the guard on duty. The Spanish Envoy under the guidance of Prince Odescalchi, ascended the staircase, passed through the rooms between a double line of soldiers of the Austrian, German and Hungarian Guards, and was met by the Master of Ceremonies and the Grand Chamberlain, who conducted him to the Emperor. His Majesty was standing alone in the audience saloon in full uniform, and wearing the Golden Fleece, with the cordon and badge of Charles III. The Duke de Bailen made a short speech in French, and then presented his credentials and an autograph letter from Alfonso XII. The Emperor granted the request for the hand of the Archduchess, after which the members of the mission were presented to him by the Envoy. This part of the ceremony concluded, the Duke passed unaccompanied into an adjoining room, where he found the Archduchess and her mother, and proffered his demand to the young Princess, which met with acceptance. Then, in accordance with Spanish usage, the duke offered the archduchess a jewel on the part of his royal master. The future Queen of Spain wore a pink satin dress, trimmed with lace and real flowers, and a magnificent diadem of precious stones. Her mother was dressed in m

Correspondence.

OUR NEW YORK LETTER.

The Seventh Regiment Fair.

Correspondence of the BLADE.

NEW YORK, Nov. 22.

THE ELITE REGIMENT.

The Seventh N. Y. Regiment has had so much said about it in story and oration that it is pretty well known over the country, in Kansas farmhouses and Ohio villages as much as Fifth avenue or Broadway. So many heros of delightful and distressing fictions of the war have been drawn from the famous Seventh. Our hearts have been so called to be moved by the spectacle of these young men of family giving up wealthy homes and society for the fight, that many like myself have considered them the heros of the war, the defenders of the national honor and bulwarks of the City's safety. It is a fact that the young men of the Seventh belong to some of the richest and most fashionable New York families, and its social prestige has naturally attracted enlistments in it. To belong to the Seventh gives a man something like the halo of privilege which surrounds her majesty's guards, the "plungers" of "Guy Livingstone" and the Ouida novels. As merchants and brokers grew rich, it was the ambition of their well-educated, well-supplied sons to enroll themselves in the Seventh, and consider themselves permanently "in society." Poe's and story writers added to the eclat which belongs to the regiment, and it is with some lowering of high pitched enthusiasm, we learn from plain people with good memories that the Seventh was never under fire, and that the hard fighting was really done by State regiments which story and poem have never known.

MILITARY GOSSIP.

There is a story circulating in the drill-rooms of other regiments that at the battle of Gettysburg, during which the Seventh was in safe quarters at Federal Hill, in the works thrown up by Duryea's Zouaves, its Colonel was heard to remark that the lives of the men in his regiment were too valuable to be brought into action. The story came from an old soldier, who was at Gettysburg, and if verified, would prove an admirable inscription for the front of the new Armory. Be that as it may, the Seventh does not hold the place in the public eye which it did before the Fair attracted the attention of the disinterested to its war record. The Twenty second New York is considered as good social material, made up of young men as fashionable and from as good circles as the Seventh; while the fighting Twenty third, and the Twelfth, with its record of hard fighting, its field drill, and its clean, sound young business men of good family, is quite as much a favorite with real soldiers, if it wants the sound backing of wealth which supports the Seventh. Nobody wishes to deny the Seventh any credit which belongs to it; but from the wording of the opening address at the Fair, one would suppose that the war record of the S ate rested on its prowess, and where much is claimed, a balancing of the books generally follows.

THE NEW ARMORY.

As it could well afford, the Seventh has stely finished an armory which has been the object of much interest among other regiments. From its size and appointments, it is probably the finest in the country. The new armory covers an entire block between Lexington and Fourth avenues, at 67th street. The enormous building loses effect by being crowded in the neighborhood of others of size. The Normal School, a model of ugliness in what may be called the schoolhouse gothic, is within two blocks, the Sinai Hospital, with its high mansard and towers, is just across the street; big libraries and hotels or club houses get up with dromedary effect of tall walls and French roofs in every direction. The wide arch of the massive building would have gained everything in effect and efficiency if it could front a square of its own. It is strange that the idea never occurs to the military organizations of a City to build their armories round a large central parade ground. How much such an arrangement would add to a City will occur to every one, and the plan is left to any City ambitious of doing something more for itself and its regiments than any other one has yet attempted. If the general military enrollment is carried out, such quarters will be a necessity, not alone a show.

THE NEW BUILDING

is of brick with string courses of light stone, and is wisely content with us take the place of ill-considered ornament. The Fourth Avenue front in three series with low square towers and a high belfry, is the administration building, where the officers' and company rooms, gymnasium and reception rooms find ample space. The drill room in the rear is the entire width and heigth of the edifice, 200x300 feet, and 100 to the centerbeam of the Truss roof.

It is a noble building for its purposes, with its solid floors laid in cement, its double oak staircase of oak, the tread of the steps two and a half inches thick, of polished oak which will stand a good many years of company tramping, the semi luxurious quarters where each company can gather about its own hearth, the large lavatories, double the size of the company rooms, the washstand ranges in oak with basins and wall screens of gray marble, and that great drill room, intended not only for drill, but social purposes, the intention being to let it during the winter for balls and fairs, by way of helping on the regimental funds. The present fair is to raise money to furnish the company rooms. The buildings will cost half a million when finished, and of this nearly or quite half is wanting or was, the fair receipts which last week reached $75,000 going far to extinguish the big figures posted up by the door. Undoubtedly the seventh is quite able to build and equip its armory without help, but the rich men of New York, as they are everywhere, are the thriftiest of their kind, and whether the new enterprise is an art association, charity or a society building are quite ready to allow the public the privilege of helping pay the bills. It is a wonder they do not start a fair to help build the new Union League Club House.

WITHIN THE FAIR

the great drill room looks like a pleasure camp, for the companies vied with each other in fanciful designs for their different stands. One tall English canopy in maroon hangings, looped by velvet shields and trophies of flags catches the eye down the hall a brilliant blue marquee with festoons and folds of American colors gleams nearer the doorway, an evergreen arched temple of flowers rises in the center, 45 feet high, a Moorish pavilion in ecru, with touches of scarlet is hung with fancy work, and a pleasure dome with light arches and silken hangings, and an Algerian awning striped in red and gold is the last carried out of any design. One company has a Chinese turret in green and pink, where diamonds and silver are on sale, another has erected a military monument draped in red with stacked arms and drums for its stand. Around the walls are the heavier articles for sale, a small yacht presented by a well known builder, two or three billiard tables of gorgeous design, gilded and inlaid with medallions of enamel, trotting wagons of spidery make, pianos organs, cases of dress hats, fine soaps and perfumes, till, as one member of the company said, it looked like the American Institute fair. The stands with the bright draperies hidden by the show of tempting and luxurious things, and of course, their attendance of bright young women, with nice shoulders, full silk petticoats and highly buckled waists in the present mode is a sight to make a holiday of itself. The distinction of the fair, however, whose good manners do it credit, is that no one is importuned to buy. The ladies stay behind their counters, like modest women. There are no eccentrically-dressed girls rushing at one begging him to take chances in this or that, or buy some wretched bit of a smoking bag or cap she dangles within the regulation three inches of his nose. The dress at the fair is fashionable in the extreme, and full dress or something like it is the rule for evening. With bright silk and laces and dismonds gliding past the gaily hung booths, and the electric light blazing over the hall, it makes as pretty a show as eye could wish.

THE PICTURE GALLERY.

The gymnasium and four rooms in the upper story have been filled by a loan collection of pictures from private galleries many of them pictures of repute, not before allowed in public exhibition. De Neuville's picture of a wounded soldier supported by a comrade from the line of march stays with me persistently. It is a small picture, and the story very simple, but the pathos very real and soldier like, business-like, I had almost said. The tall officer on horseback who removes his cigarette for a glance of grim compassion at the ghastly face and sinking figure is an excellent portrait of Dumas himself. The old curiosity shop would interest your readers more, with Col. Kent's jewelled sword which is the most magnificent one ever known in this country. Its handle of sacred olive wood from Jerusalem, surmounted by a cross in the center of which blazes a diamond of value not mentioned for fear of attracting an undesirable attention; rubies and Egyptian topazes large as one's thumb nail on the guard, and hundreds of small stones, turquoises, rubies and pearls in the ornamental work. The sword is a Toledo ribbon blade, of the kind that would go through a man like a rush of cool air so that he wouldn't know he was hurt till he shook himself in two, and is probably too valuable to be taken into action. There is a court sword of Charles XI of Sweden, with an onyx handle which looks very plain and business-like beside it. Tiffany & Co. have fac similes of the Indian ornaments brought home by the Prince of Wales, a set of eight pieces, necklace, brooch, bracelets, ear-drops and two pendants of mosaic, portraits of the sovereigns and queens of India, a collar of turquoises and pearls two inches deep with fringe still deeper, is of Indian work, beautiful, barbaric and in short enviable. Among the precious things of the collection are the portraits of Marshal Nay and his wife, once in possession of citizen Genet, if I am rightly told, Joan Jay's gown of office, in black silk and red satin, a case of revolutionary ware and hosts of old letters and relics, about which other pens must tell you.

PIERRE.

LETTER FROM BUCKEYE.

The Expedients of the Demoralized Democracy—Gen. Grant Among Them—Extravgant Appropriation—Congressmen Arriving—Thanksgiving.

Correspondence of Toledo BLADE.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28 1879.

Public attention is now turned toward the approaching session of Congress and there is a very natural inquiry from all directions as to what course the Democratic majority will pursue in view of the fact that recent events have demolished the strained and artificial issues raised in party caucus and pushed to the verge of revolution through an extra session of Congress. On this subject the arriving members are earnestly questioned and they all have their say, but they are so divergent in their views that they fail to foreshadow any plausible indication of what the aggregate Democratic wisdom will evolve.

But there is a good deal of scolding in the Democratic papers and censures are freely heaped on the heads of those who led the party into such a fatal ambush, the effect of which is very disheartening and promises to do more for the complete overthrow of the party then its late repulses all along the line. It is this feeling of utter discomfiture, the feeling that the solid South is, after all, a failure, that has suggested so many expedients—all utterly futile—for the relief of the situation. Among them is the hopeless one of capturing Gen. Grant. This is a suggestion of some of the newspapers in the Solid South, but there does not appear to be any way to make it effective. The conservative of the South would like to turn their backs on the Republican party, as it exists there, and nominating Grant before any action is action by the National Convention, put themselves in the head of what they regard as an irresistible Grant movement.

But as Gen. Grant is not angling for the office of President and such a movement would be sure to come to naught, it will not be seriously undertaken. No public men are so timid as those who have no principle in their politics and are governed by loose expediency. Hence the Southern men who are known to be favorable to Grant and, when at the North, talk him up on all occasions, as soon as they come in the presence of their compeers at home, become amazingly prudent and conservative. Still it is not amiss for us to know what the South is thinking about in these days of depression and disappointment. As one of their own leaders has said: "They want to have a hand in the government, they want to be considered in the distribution of national honors."

But while they want these things, they do not want to be Republicans, and as they can have no part in the National Convention without acting with the Republican party. The "Grant boom" is not so lively as ex Congressman Shoemaker seems to think. But in spite of policies and interests there is still a feeling for Grant among the Conservatives of the South, which is above these selfish interests and which is bound to exert itself to some extent in the elections next year.

One of the law officers of the Government who has just arrived from New Orleans, where he has been engaged in some important suits, fell in my way yesterday and I asked him if he seen anything, while te was absent, to favor the current idea that Gen. Grant would get any considerable support from Democrats in the South?"

"Well," said he, "I saw a number of leading Democrats who did not hesitate to say that they should vote for Grant if he was nominated."

"But do you think they will amount to enough to give Grant a chance to carry a single Southern State?"

"As to that, it is too early to say; but if the same feeling prevails elsewhere as in New Orleans, I should say that such States as Florida and North Carolina could not be counted on for any Democrat now in the field, as against Grant."

"What was the class of men that seemed to be favoring the election of Gen. Grant?"

They were all men engaged in active business. Several of them were leading lawyers. One was the keeper of the hotel where I was staying. He said he was tired of being ruled by a mob; that the South was going on from bad to worse; that it needed to feel the influence of the general Government, and he thought it was time that it put itself in harmony with the North. He closed up by saying that if Grant was a candidate he should vote for him.

But this feeling, to amount to anything or to have any weight with the National Convention, should show itself by augmenting the ranks of the Republican party. There is an organized Republican party in every State, at the South as at the North, and if Democrats desire to have a voice in making the Republican nomination for President, they should lose no time in associating themselves with the Republican cause.

A statement just issued by the Treasury excites a good deal of attention, probably because it shows a large discrepancy between preaching and practice. The Democratic Congress, you know, has been particularly steep on economy, and in the late elections one of their cards was the large amounts which they pared off from the estimates made by the Republican officers. Well, it turns out that this was of a piece with their cry about keeping soldiers from the polls where they never had been and where nobody proposed to send them. It seems by the statements referred to that the estimates, as presented to Congress by the various heads of Departments, were reduced about *three quarters of a million*. But, while they reduced on one hand they increased on the other; and the increase was immensely greater than the decrease. The amounts cut down reached $746,430, but the amounts increased reached $33,904,080. Of this enormous sum about $22,000,000 was to cover the arrears of pensions, but even with this great sum deducted the amount appropriated over and above what the Republican officers had called for was more than $11,000,000.

If we take the preceeding year the case is still stronger. The estimates were cut down $1,426,624, but Congress appropriated over and above the estimates $39,994,945. In the State Department over $5,500,000, in the Treasury over $6 000,000, in the War Department nearly $25,000,000, and in the Internal Department nearly $2,000,000—besides smaller items. So much for economy eked out by deficiency bills.

Members of Congress are now arriving by every train, and a quorum will probably be present on Monday, when the session will be formally opened. The members generally do not bear themselves so loftily as they did at the beginning of the extra session, but some of them maintain that New York is still in doubt, and that the Democracy will unite and carry it next year. But just how a union can be effected with Tilden in the field, or how it can be carried with Tilden out of the field no one pretends to say. One of the first things that Congress will have to do is to appropriate the amount that it skipped at the extra session for the United States Marshals. When that bill comes up we shall know how the champions of revolution are to bear themselves.

Thanksgiving was a lovely day and was largely given up to feasting and social enjoyment. The offices were closed and the churches opened.

BUCKEYE.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Forty-sixth Congress---First Session.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—The Senate at noon was called to order by Vice President Wheeler, and prayer was offered by the chaplain. Sedators Anthony and Bayard were appointed a committee to join a similar committee of the House to wait upon the President and inform him that both Houses of Congress were ready to receive any communication he might choose to make. Pending the report of the Committee, business was suspended.

When the Senate re-convened, a message was received from the House announcing it was in session and that it had appointed a committee to wait upon the President.

Sen. BURNSIDE gave notice that after the morning hour to-morrow he would ask leave to call up a joint resolution offered by him at the last session relating to the proposed inter-oceanic canal, for the purpose of making some remarks thereon.

THE VICE PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury, which was ordered to be printed and to lie on the table. Business was again suspended for a period.

The committee reported that they had waited on the President, and very soon afterward the President's message was received and read.

The reading of the President's message was concluded at 3:10 P. M.

Sen. FERRY then rose and said that the sorrowful official duty devolved upon him of announcing to the Senate the death of his late colleague, Zachariah Chandler. It was not his present purpose to speak on the character and services of one so long and so honorably a member of this body, but at some suitable time he would invite the Senate to express by resolution and by eulogy its sense of the irreparable loss the Nation had sustained in the death of so distinguished a citizen. As a mark of respect to the Senator present at the last adjournment, and absent now forevermore, he moved the Senate do now adjourn. Adjourned.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Speaken Randall called the House to order, at noon, roll call showed 293 members present and 56 absent.

The newly elected members from California, Iowa, New York took the iron clad oath. The House then took a short recess that the committee might wait upon the President and inform him that the House was ready for any communication from him.

At 1:50 the President's annual message was received and read.

The reading of the message consumed an hour and a half, and then on motion of Mr. FLOYD, the message and accompanying documents were referred to a committee of the whole, and ordered printed.

Adjourned.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Sen. GORDON introduced the following joint resolution:

WHEREAS, The project of the construction of an inter-oceanic canal in Nicaraugua is recognized as a necessity for the prosperity of the commerce of the world and the development of the maritime and commercial interests of the United States, and

WHEREAS, Such enterprise must of necessity be considered of international utility under protection of the United States. Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Government of the United States pledges to accord full and entire protection to the company to which shall be granted the concession by the Government of Nicaraugua for the construction of said inter-oceanic canal and will secure to said company the peaceful enjoyment of the rights conceded by such concession. Referred to the Committee on Commerce, when appointed.

Sen. BURNSIDE called up his resolution of the last session re-affirming the Monroe doctrine in connection with the proposed Darien Canal and made a speech thereon. At its conclusion the Senate went into Executive session, and when the doors re-opened, adjourned.

HOUSE.

A resolution was offered by Mr. PRICE declaring it to be the opinion of the House that no change should be made in the currency laws at the present session of Congress. It was referred, as was also the joint resolution introduced by Mr. ELLIS, pledging the protection of the Government to the Nicaraugua Inter-Oceanic Canal Company when it shall have obtained a grant from the Nicaraugua Government.

THE THUNDERER.

It Speaks Upon Two or Three Subjects.

LONDON, Dec 1.—The Times in a financial article says: Among other evidences of the reviewing capacity of Europe to contenact an adverse trade balance with the United States are advices from Germany which show that one million cwts. of steel blocks have been sold for shipment to Ameriba by Krupp and others. This operation will be financed through London.

The Times in an editorial discussing the messsge of President Hayes to Congress says: "If legal tender notes in circulation be called in and cancelled, silver dollars must take their place and the existing plethora be relieved. Further relief will come in due time from the action of trade. Money that has flowed in such profusion from Europe to the United States cannot always remain there. Its presence will soon be felt in the rise of prices throughout the Union, and as soon as the rise has been established a demand for European goods will follow, and the current of money from the East to the Western shores of the Atlantic will be arrested, if not reversed. A process of this kind cannot be completed within a week or a month, but its development may be anticipated as confidently as the movement of the tides."

Summer's Heat

relaxes the system and renders us liable to attacks of diarrhœa, dysentary, bloody flux, cholera-morbus, cramps in the stomach, colic, and other painful and dangerous affections for which Dr. Pierce's Compound Extract of Smart-weed—compounded from the best French brandy, Jamaica ginger, smart-weed, or water-pepper, anodyne, soothing and healing gums and balsams, is a most potent specific. It is equally efficacious in breaking up colds, fever and inflammatory attacks. Every household should be supplied with it. Fifty cents by druggists.

News of the Week.

THE CAPITAL.

A dispatch says Gen. Francis Walker, Superintendent of census, in his annual report says, that the census law enacted at the last regular session of Congress, is found to be thoroughly satisfactory in its practical working thus far, and he recommends only two minor changes: That the franking privilege be extended to communications addressed to the census office, and that inquiry regarding holders of public debt be omitted from the population schedule as useless and aggravating.

A Washington dispatch says the annual report of the Government Auditor of Railroad Accounts shows that the amount due by the Government on December 31, 1879, and withheld from the Union and Kansas Pacific Companies on account of transportation will more than offset the $2,737,576 payable by them on account of five per cent. of their net earnings. As to railroad construction, it is stated that for 10 months, ending October 31, 1879, there was built in the United States 2,900 miles of new railroads, of which over 2,000 miles were west of the the Mississippi, while the average new construction for five years previous, taking, of course, only the first 10 months of each year, amounted to only 1,600 miles. It is remarkable, however, that notwithstanding the large increase of population in the West, the facilities afforded for travel, the reduction in rates, and the general increase in railroad business, passenger traffic has decreased, indicating, as the Auditor believes, either that the people cannot afford to travel, or that railroad companies have not yet solved the problem of passenger transportation.

R W. Thompson, Secretary of the Navy in his report of the condition and operations of the Navy Department made public Nov. 28, says: The condition of the Navy has greatly improved during the past year. There are now in commission 35 vessels consisting of cruisers, monitors and torpedo boats of different classes. The force could easily be increased to 93 vessels of all classes. The unexpended balance of the appropriations which stood to the credit of the department at the close of the last fiscal year, was $1,518,205 which, added to the appropriation makes the aggregate of the appropriations available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, of $14,502,240. A table of estimates is submitted of expenses for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1881, which aggregate $14,864,147, showing an excess over the appropriations of the previous year of $816,899.

The excess is accounted for by the fact that the estimate for the pay of the navy was reduced $106,725 in the appropriations, and that $90,000 will be required for a system of training boys for the navy, and by other expenses in various bureaus which are mentioned in detail. For the first time probably, in the history of the Government, the expenses for the past year were less than the amount of the appropriations.

A dispatch says the Mississippi, River Improvement Convention, which was held at Quincy, Ill., a few weeks ago, adopted a resolution instructing its President, ex Gov. Stanard, of this City, to appoint an executive committee to prepare a memorial to Congress, setting forth more in detail the views of the convention upon the subject of the improvement of the channel of the Mississippi River and its tributaries; to collect and publish statistics bearing on the subject, for the information of the people and the government; and use all further means to procure early and favorable action upon this subject by Congress. In accordance with these instructions Mr. Stanard to-day appointed the following named gentlemen a committee: J. Ham Davidson St. Louis; Charles Seymour, LaCrosse; M. J. Johnson, Galena; Robt. F. Bower, Keokuk; John A. Shudder, St. Louis; John N. Bullinger, St. Louis; S. F. Covington, Cincinnati; Enoch Ensly, Memphis; Joseph Oglesby, New Orleans. Mr. Stanard is also a member of the committee.

At Washington Dec. 1, the debt statement issued shows a decrease of the debt for November to be $799,823, cash in the Treasury, $207,217,088; gold certificates, $13,379 200; silver certificates, $7,067,910; certificates of deposit outstanding, $14,100,000; refunding certificates, $2,611,750; legal tenders outstanding, $346,681,016; fractional currency outstanding, $15,704,348.

At Washington, Dec. 1, the President sent the following nominations to the Senate to day. George W. McCrary Iowa, U. S, Judge of Eight Circuit; W. H. Hayes of Kentucky, U S District Judge, of the District of Kentucky; C. G. French; Chief Justice.

SOUTH.

A Galveston News special from Marshall says: The case of the State against James Currie for the murder of the actor Porter, was called this morning, and none of the State witnesses being present, the District Attorney announced that he was not ready, and asked a continuation, which was granted. The Court ordered the Clerk to enter a fine of $500 against Maurice Barrymore, he having forfeited his recognizance. The prosecution claim to have made every effort to find Harvey. The case will be called again in April.

EAST.

At New York, Nov. 27, a meeting of the prominent journalists took place at the Windsor Hotel for the purpose of discussing the existing arrangements for the gathering of news, and for considering a plan submitted by the Western Associated Press, for the establishment of a central agency or clearing house in New York, in which all the news associations should be represented. The New York Press Association was represented by Messrs. Jones and Brooks; the Western Associated Press by Murat Halstead, Joseph Medill, Richard Smith and William Henry Smith; the New England Press Association by Messrs Pulsifer, Waters and Danilton; the Philadelphia Press by Messrs. McLoughlin and Clayton McMichael, and the New York State Association by S. S. Smith.

The new plan urged by the Western publishers is to create a national association, in which all shall be represented and which shall control the gathering of such news as all are interested in obtaining. Each separate organization now existing would still be maintained and would work its own field for itself, as it might see fit. The Western men say the country has grown too big to depend for a large part of its news on an organization composed exclusively of New York City papers, and that western newspapers are powerful enough to demand a share in the direction of news gathering enterprises, in the results of which they have just as strong an interest as the New York journals. The meeting was for conference only, and no action was taken except to appoint a committee composed of Messrs. Medill, C. L. Smith, and Pulcifer, representing all the associations outside of New York City, to confer with the executive committee of the New York Associated Press.

At Augusta, Dec. 1, the Senators and Representatives elected and their attorneys from all the Counties in the State assembled. In addition there were large outside delegations including five ex-Governors, namely: Auston P. Morrill, Seldon Connor, Lot M. Morrill, Joshua L. Chamberlain and Nelson Dingley. The executive council opened and exhibited the returns of the election of County officers and promised to show the returns of Senators and Representatives to-morrow morning. Gov. Gracelon has arrived.

WEST

At Los Pinos Agency Nov. 26, at a meeting of the Commission this morning Ouray reported the arrival last night of a runner from Douglas' camp, with information that owing to the advance of troops the Uintahs had left the agency and reservation to join Douglas, prepared to fight; that the White River Utes decline to return, and Jack sends words that he will not come here until the Uintah trouble is settled. If this is true the work of the Commission is ended for the present. Some of the Commission doubt the report, believing it a ruse to gain time, or that the Mormons are at the bottom of it.

At Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 1. in the United States Court Judge Dyer rendered his decision in the case of Matthew Gottfried, complainant, vs. the Phillips Best Brewing Company. The Judge sustained the complainant's patent. The decision is one of great importance to the brewers, as it makes them liable for a royalty for the use of a process and apparatus, which has been for several years in operation in all large breweries for pitching the inner surface of all beer kegs and barrels.

FOREIGN.

Great Britain.

At London Dec. 1, an appeal from Cardinal Manning for subscriptions to alleviate distress in Ireland, was read in all the Catholic Churches of the metropolis. It is stated that in the west of Ireland such hunger, poverty and want are now to be seen as has never been known since the great Irish famine

Ireland.

At Sligo, Nov. 25, Court was again crowded with spectators, Killen and Davitt appeared perfectly cheerful and fearless. Monroe, Queen's Counsel, said if he could prove the utterance of Davitt's alleged words, "The manhood of Ireland should spring to its feet and say it would tolerate landlords and landlordism no longer," the magistrates would be bound to commit him. The police evidence was called to prove their utterance. Davitt, who had been occupied all the morning preparing a written defense, before commencing to deliver it, protested against Monroe's remark that he had already experienced the clemency of the crown and declared that he was innocent of the charge on which he was convicted in 1870. Daly, since his release from jail, complains of his treatment while in prison. Monroe in the course of his remarks said that Davitt is probably the most dangerous of the Irish agitators and especially pointed to his language comparing the Zulu assegai to the Irish pike.

Russia.

Another dispatch says the Czar and Czarewitch will meet at Moscow Tuesday, where the nobility will be represented, and an address be pelivered. If the rumors of a new departure in the creation of a legislative council, etc., have any foundation, some announcement will probably be made to that effect on this occasion.

At London Dec. 2, a Berlin dispatch says the Czar will inform the nobility of Moscow at the reception to-day of his determination to call a number of unofficial advisers to assist him in the government of the Empire. The council will be purely deliberative without any right of control or interference. It will be chosen purely by the suffrages of the middle and peasant classes and partly direct nomination by the Czar from the ranks of hereditary nobility. Other measures of local reform will also be announced. These innovations have been strongly advocated by the Czarovitch.

Afghanistan.

The London Post, commenting upon Yakoob Khan's departure from Cabul for Peshawur says: "This news is of great significance. It probably means that Afghanistan has seen the last of its Ameers. It also points to restraint if not actual punishment being in store for Yakoob for his carelessness if not connivance in the massacre of the Embassy. The exact part he played may never be known. A Commission of inquiry is reported to have found it absolutely impossible to obtain evidence that would justify conviction for the major offence but there is more than enough to establish Yakoob's weakness and culpable negligence."

THE RED MEN.

Mormon Militia Tampering with the Indians.

LOS PINOS AGENCY, Nov. 29, via Lake City, Col., Dec. 1.—The Commission is patiently awaiting the arrival of the White River Utes. Several propositions have been made by the Indians, through Ouray, to return the stock and property captured at White River, but all such offers have been refused. Gens. Hatch and Adams will listen to no compromise. The surrender of the guilty parties is the only proposition that will be entertained by them. Agent Stanley received the money of Mrs. Meeker from Douglass through Chief Ouray upon his own responsibility.

LATER.—1:20 P. M.—Ouray informs the Commission that the troops reported to him advancing on the Uintah Agency were Mormon militia; that they have arrived there and are trying to persuade the Indians to renew the fight, offering to join the Utes and furnish men and arms. Jack is in camp 20 miles from White River. Ouray thinks it doubtful about his coming here, as he is afraid of the Commission.

The Hayes Boom.

Boston Transcript.

If the people, the 'plain men,' as Abraham Lincoln was wont to call them, could have their way unvexed by politicians, there would be very little bother about the next Presidential contest. Pres. Hayes would be re-elected without much opposition.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

Mr. Hayes has never yet had awarded to him the honor which historically and justly belongs to him since his election, as the real statesman of the Republican party.

—"I GAVE the child a dose of 'Dr. Sellers Cough Syrup,' and it was all right in an hour." Sold by druggists at 25 cents a bottle.

Benefactors.

When a board of eminent physicians and chemists announce the discovery that by combining some well known valuable remedies, the most wonderful medicine was produced, which would cure such a wide range of diseases that most all other remedies could be dispensed with, many were sceptical, but proof of its merits by actual trial has dispelled all doubt, and to-day the discoverers of that great medicine, Hop Bitters, are honored and blessed by all as benefactors.

FELLOWS'
Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites

"It is Perfectly Safe, and the Taste Pleasant."

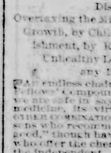
AND IS ADAPTED FOR

Diseases which are produced by Loss of Nervous Power, and consequent Muscular Relaxation, viz:
CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS,
ASTHMA, WHOOPING COUGH,
APHONIA, COUGH,
NERVOUSNESS, MENTAL DEPRESSION,
NEURALGIA, EPILEPTIC FITS,
ST. VITUS DANCE, NERVOUS DEBILITY,
CHRONIC DIARRHŒA, LEUCORRHŒA,
FEVER AND AGUE, MARASMUS,
DYSPEPSIA, DYSPHERETIC PROSTRATION,
INTERRUPTED and FEEBLE ACTION of the HEART.

Diseases produced by
Overtaxing the Mind, by Grief or Anxiety, by Rapid Growth, by Child-bearing, by Insufficient Nourishment, by Residence in Hot Climates or Unhealthy Localities, by Excesses, or by any Irregularities of Life.

The endless chain for good effects is formed by the following: Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites: and no one can in reason, feel that he is swallowing a medicine, its virtues are not possessed by any other preparation. NOTE—Be suspicious of persons who recommend any other article as "just as good," though having a similar name, and of those who offer the cheaper priced article. For it is only the independent, well-posted, and unselfish physicians who can afford to prescribe this remedy. Experience has proved this. The highest class medical men in every large city, where it is known, recommend it.

Sold by all Druggists. $1.50 per Pint Bottle.



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Better than a horse, because you can ride it more miles in a day than a horse can go, and it eats nothing.
Send Three-cent Stamp for Price List and 32 page Illustrated Catalogue, with full information.
THE POPE MANUFACTURING CO.,
79 & 81 Summer Street, Boston, Mass.

The Markets.

General Produce.

BUFFALO, Dec. 2.—Breadstuffs—Wheat—Market quiet; good milling demand only; sales of 20,000 bu No 1 Duluth hard at 130@131c; bu No 1 milling, nominal at —c. Corn quiet; sales 3000 bu No. 2 mixed western at 51c. Other grains neglected.

DETROIT, Dec. 2.—Breadstuffs—Wheat—The market is easier; extra, at 131c; No 1 white, 131c; do seller December, 131½c; seller January, 133¾c; seller February, 136¾c; No. 1 milling, nominal at —c. Receipts—wheat, 31,000 bu; shipments—wheat, —— bu.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 2.—Wheat declined ¼@1¼; noon board closed firm; 122¾c for hard, 122¾c for No 1; 121¾c for No 2 and seller December; 123¼c seller January; 125¾c for seller February; 108¾c for No 3; 103¾c for No 4; 96c for rejected. Receipts—Wheat, 111,800 bu; shipments —wheat, 7,700 bu. Corn steady; 39½c for No. 2. Oats firm; 33c for No 2. Rye quiet at 72c for No 1. Barley firm at 75c for No 2.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 1.—Breadstuffs—Flour—Market firm; business limited; western extras, $5 75; Wisconsin extra family, $6 25; Minnesota extra family medium, $6 25; good, $6 50; choice and fancy, $6 75. Wheat firmer; No. 2 red in elevator, 143@144c; do spot, 145c bid; 145¾c asked; seller December, 143¾c bid; 150c asked. Corn in fair demand; old sail western mixed, 60c; old yellow, 61c. Oats, not much demand; mixed, 41@42c; stained, 42@43½c; white, 43@45¾c.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 2.—Breadstuffs — Flour is steady at $6 00@6 25 for family; $7 00 for fancy. Corn firm at 128½c. Oats is steady at —@—c; new at 40@43c. Oats firm; No 2 mixed at 35@36c; white, —@—c. Provisions —Pork nominal at $10 35@——. Lard is easier at 6 50. Bacon—shoulders at ——@——. Green meats—shoulders at ——; clear rib sides, ——@——; hams at $7 50@8 00. Whisky higher at 110c.

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 29.—The Commercial Indicator reports wheat receipts, 4,741 bu; shipments, 1,753 bu; in store, 647,480 bu; market unsettled. No. 2, 117c bid; No. 3, 105¾c; No. 4, 103½c bid. Corn—Receipts, 33,850 bu; shipments 23,373 bu; in store, 138,552 bu; market less active and lower. No. 2 mixed, 38¾@39c; No. 2 white mixed, 39½c asked. Oats—Receipts, —— bu; shipments, —— bu; in store, —— bu; No. 2, 23@33½; rejected, —c asked. Rye, No 2, 62c bid; rejected, —c. Eggs—fresh slow sale at 18@19c ₰ doz. Butter—choice at 17@18c; medium, 13@14c; common, 8c.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—Cotton dull at 12¾c for middling uplands. Flour—market steady; receipts, 18,000 bbls; sales, 14,000 bbls; common to extra western, $5 70@6 00; Hoop, $5 80@7 50. Rye flour dull and unchanged. Wheat—1@2 00 lower; receipts, 208,000 bu; sales, 112,000 bu; No. 2 Spring, seller December, 131¾c. Rye quiet at 91c for State and Canada. Corn dull; receipts, 176,000 bu; sales, 34,000 bu; 59¾@61¾c for mixed western and Western Amber yesterday. Corn—The trading has been quite liberal; No. 2 old, 43c; New Corn—High-mixed, 41¾c; No. 2, 40¾c; Rejected, 40c; No. 2 seller January, 45c; seller May, 47c. Oats—Good trade; No. 2, 33c; seller December, 34½c; seller May, 36c. Clover Seed —Fair receipts; Prime Medium, $5 15; No. 2, $4 75@4 90. Dressed Hogs—The receipts are liberal, but prices keep well up at $4 65@4 75 for all weights and those drifting on 200 lbs. Lumber —Uppers, 1 inch, $38 00; 1¼, 1½ and 2 inch, $40 00; selects, 1 inch, $30 00; selects, 1¼, 1½ and 2 inch, $33 00; select common, 1 inch, $22 00; 1¼, 1½ and 2 inch, $25 00; common boards, 1x12, 14 & 16 ft, $13 00; common, 1x12, 18 & 20 ft, $14 00. Cull boards, $11 00. Cull boards, thick, $11 00. Strips, 1x6 clear, and 2x4, $38 00; 1x6 select or 1st common $30 00; 1x6 2d common, $21 00; 1x6 3d common, $17 00; 1x6 fencing, $14 00; 1x6 cull fencing, $12 00; irregular flooring strips, $23 00; good Norway, $32 00; fine common, $18 00; common, $12 00; lath, $2 25; uppers, 1x12, $38 00; selects, 1x12, $30 00; fine common, $24 00. Common boards—1x10 and 1x12 & 18 ft $14 00; do 1x10, 1x12 & 14 ft, $15 00; do 1x10, 4x12, 12 & 14 ft, $15 00; do 1x10 and 1x12, 18 ft, $16 00; do 1x10, 1x12, 20 ft, $18 00. Bill stuff—1x12, 16 ft, $12 00; 1x12, 14 ft, $12 00. Bill stuffs—2x4, 3x4, 4x4, 18 ft and under, $13; do 4x6, 6x8 8x8, 18 ft & un, $13. Bill stuff—2x6, 2x8, 2x10, 2x12, 16 ft and under, $12 00; do 18 feet, $13 00; do 20 feet, $14 00. Sawed timber all over 18 ft; Shingles, 18 inch XXX $2 10; clear butts, $2 75; XXX, 16 inch, $2 75; clear butts, $1 75. Lath, ganz-sawed (all white pine,) $2 25. Dressed Flooring, 1st and 2d clear, $35 00; first common, $32 00; second common, $26 00; fence, $19 00; Norway, good, $25 00; common, $20 00; fence, $16 00; siding, 1st and 2d clear, $18 00; first common, $16 00; second common, $14 00; fencing, $26 00@32 00; shelving, 1in. $34 00; finishing, 1 in, $32 00. Drop or patent siding same as flooring.

Live Stock Markets.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 1.—Hogs—Market active and higher; common, $3 50@4 00; light, $3 70@4 00; packing, $4 50@4 75; butchers', $4 70@4 75. Receipts, 6,385 head; shipments, 240 head.

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 27.—The Commercial Indicator reports cattle receipts at 332 head; shipments, 280 head; market steady and supply entirely of common quality.

Hogs—Receipts, 1,748 head; shipments, 123 head; market firm and 10@15c higher; sales ranged from $3 20@3 85; bulk at $3 60@3 75.

Sheep—Receipts, —— head; shipments, —— head; native muttons averaging 90@100 lbs, sold at $3 00.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 1.—Cattle—Market active; receipts, 2,700 head; prime, $5 00; good $5 30@5 50; medium, $4 50@4 75; common, $3 50@4 00; rough fat cows, $2 50@3 50; prime $5 25@5 50; good, ——@——; medium, $4 25@4 75; common, $4 00@4 25.

Lambs—Market in fair demand; receipts, 1,000 head; prime, $6 75@6 00; good, $5 50@6 00; medium, $5 00; common, $4 00.

Hogs—Market active; receipts, 6,000 head; prime, $5 12½ good, to medium, $5 25@5 50; mixed, $5 75@6 00.

CHICAGO, Dec. 1.—Hogs—Receipts —— head; shipments, —— head; market active; light 10c higher at $3 90@4 10; heavy 5@10c higher; choice, $4 25@4 40; mixed packing at $3 80@4 15.

Cattle—Receipts, 5,500 head; shipments, 1,000 head; market active and firm; shipping, $4 10@4 70; butchers' steady at $2 00@3 20; western cattle strong; Texans weak at $2 30@2 80; stockers and